

THE ILLUMINATOR

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View from Roanoke Memorial Hospital roof shows field at Victory Stadium (left) under water. Photo courtesy *Roanoke Times & World News*.

FLOODS, SNOW CAUSE EXTENSIVE POWER OUTAGES

A two-day storm brought high winds, heavy snow and severe flooding to portions of Southwest Virginia late last month, interrupting service to several thousand customers in five of Appalachian Power's operating divisions.

A very heavy, wet snowfall blanketed practically all of the Pulaski Division with accumulations ranging from 3 to 24 inches. The Claytor-Wurno 138 kv circuit locked out on April 26 when two poles on a three-pole dead-end structure broke about 25 feet from the top, allowing the conductors to wrap around each other.

Approximately 10,000 customers were out of service at the height of the interruptions. Hardest hit were Floyd County, southern Pulaski County and northeastern Carroll County. Sixteen contractor crews, four Bartlett tree trimming crews and 30 employees from other APCo divisions worked around the clock with division employees until service was restored. The first trouble was reported about 9 AM on April 26 and all but 50 customers had service restored by 2 PM on April 30. All service was restored that evening by midnight.

In Roanoke, 6.6 inches of rain fell within 24 hours. The waters of Roanoke River in the Roanoke City area reached a crest of 19 feet, approximately .35 foot below the record flood level of 1972. Some 1,000 residents were forced to flee their homes.

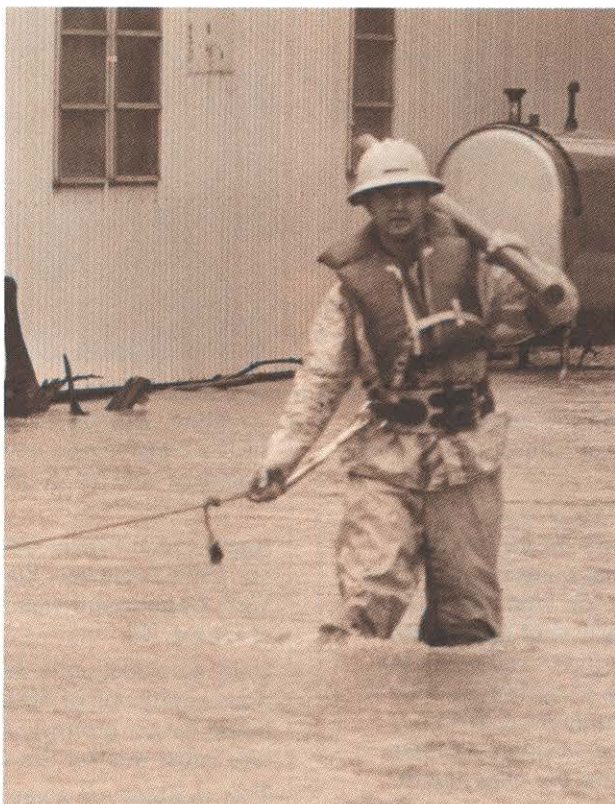
The elevation of Smith Mountain reservoir reached a record high of 799.79 feet at 10 PM on April 27. The previous high was 797.60 feet on June 22, 1972, as a result of Hurricane Agnes.

At the same time, snow ranging from 12 to 18 inches fell in the Bent Mountain and Patrick County areas. Electrical service to about 3,300 customers was knocked out when trees fell across lines or when wind snapped snow-laden lines. Heavy rains accompanied by high winds and snow interrupted service to about 1,500 customers in the Stuart area. Seven company crews and two contractor crews worked to clear up the widely scattered trouble.

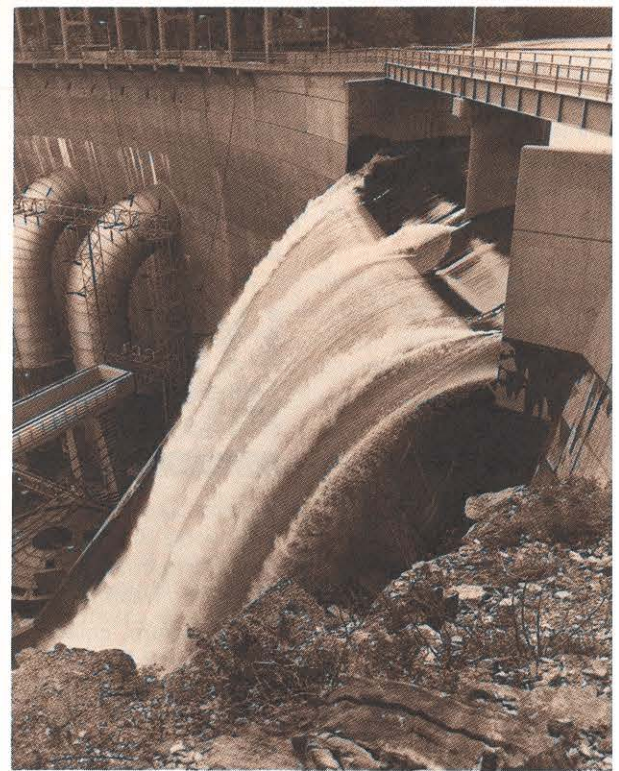
An eight-inch snowfall in the Bluefield and Princeton areas interrupted service to about 6,500 customers, with an additional 625 others losing service due to heavy rains and slides.

Heavy rains and high winds of up to 58 miles per hour caused extensive damages and outages in the Lynchburg Division beginning on April 26. Some 4,000 customers were out of service for varying periods of time ranging from about an hour to 24 hours. Fifteen overhead contractor employees and two right-of-way contractor employees aided company crews in restoring service.

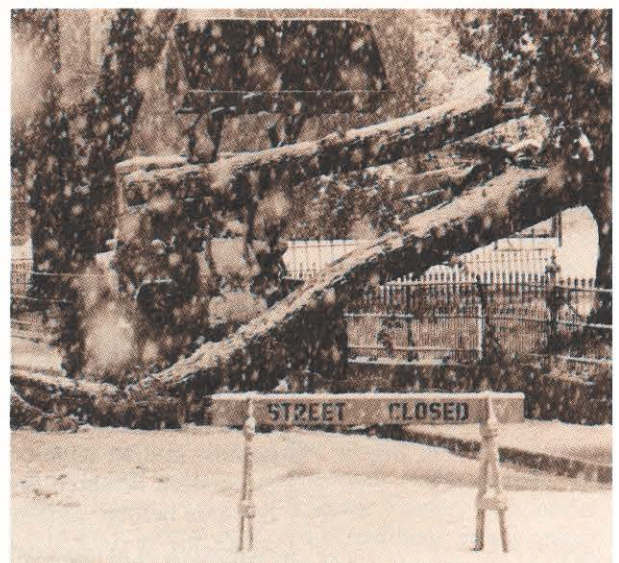
Damage in the Abingdon Division was confined essentially to the Marion area. Outages involving some 2,700 customers occurred sporadically all around that operating area and recurred in almost every case after initial restoration. The outages were caused by trees outside the right-of-way bending or breaking under the weight of ice and snow.



Ben Michael, Roanoke line mechanic C, hangs onto life line provided by rescue squad after disconnecting the power to a trailer park. Photo courtesy *Roanoke Times & World News*.



Water spills over Smith Mountain Dam, only the fifth time since it was completed in 1966.



City workers remove tree limb that broke because of heavy snow in Pulaski. Photo courtesy *Roanoke Times & World News*.

THE ILLUMINATOR

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AEP SYSTEM EMPLOYEE SAVINGS PLAN

Date	Value Per Unit	Units Credited Per Dollar
AEP Stock Fund		
1/31/1978	\$1.0000	1.0000
2/28/1978	0.9816	1.0187
3/31/1978	0.9974	1.0026
Fixed Income Fund		
1/31/1978	\$1.0000	1.0000
2/28/1978	1.0076	0.9925
3/31/1978	1.0147	0.9855
Equity Fund		
1/31/1978	\$1.0000	1.0000
2/28/1978	0.9969	1.0031
3/31/1978	1.0190	0.9814

W. VA. PSC ORDERS THIRD APCO REFUND

The West Virginia Public Service Commission on March 28 ordered Appalachian Power Company to refund approximately \$13 million, including 7³/₄ percent interest, for electricity used during the period May 1, 1977, to March 15, 1978. The decision was the third by the PSC on rates placed in effect under bond by Appalachian on August 28, 1975, each decision providing for a different level of rates because of rising fuel costs between early 1976 and late 1977.

The March 28 order stated that the refund was to be completed by April 19, which was a mechanical and physical impossibility for Appalachian. On April 5 the company requested the Commission to grant 73 additional days in which to make the refund. On April 11 the Commission issued an order granting an additional 38 days or until May 27. The company is making every effort to meet this date.

LYNCHBURG SITE PICKED FOR TEST

Appalachian Power Company has selected the Wildwood Subdivision near Lynchburg, Virginia, for its experimental program in controlling the operation of electric heating and air conditioning equipment.

The program, called "Test of Energy-Sharing Technology (TEST)", is another in a series of experimental load management programs by Appalachian and is being carried out to determine its potential for helping to stabilize the cost of electricity.

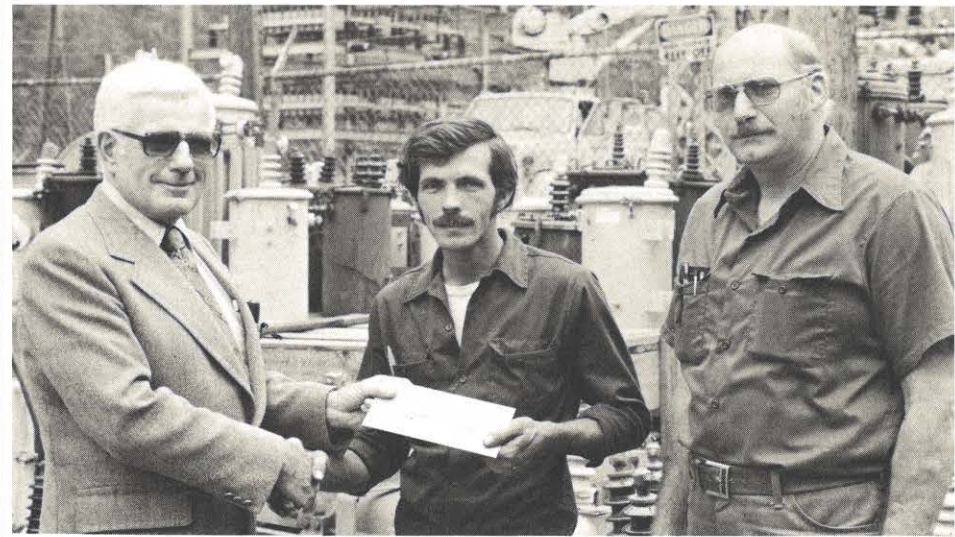
The Wildwood Subdivision was chosen because it met the criteria needed to conduct the experimental program: it contains at least 120 homes with both electric furnaces and central air conditioning and all of the homes are served by the same distribution line.

From its operations center in Roanoke, Appalachian will control the customers' electric heating and air conditioning equipment through the use of radio signals that will activate a special control unit in each of the homes being tested.

During the testing, which will last at least a year, equipment will be cycled off and on for varying lengths of time. Through special metering, the company will be able to determine the effect on its peak load and ascertain the best method of operations. An important part of the experiment will be an appraisal of customer acceptance of cyclical control of heating and air conditioning equipment. An independent research firm will be working with participants before, during and after the experiment.

Residents of Wildwood Subdivision were invited to meetings last month to hear the program explained. To date, 93 homeowners have signed agreements to participate.

BLUEFIELD EMPLOYEES AID BURNED OUT CO-WORKER



Morris Yost, line superintendent (left), presents a check for \$1,600 to Jack Scott, Grundy line mechanic D, as Jim Looney, Grundy line crew supervisor, looks on.

Bluefield Division employees opened their hearts and pocketbooks recently when co-worker's home and personal belongings were completely destroyed by fire.

Jack Scott, Grundy area line mechanic D, was attending a training school in Abingdon when the disaster occurred. The home was not covered by insurance, leaving Jack, his wife Patricia and their two children without anything. Just one year ago, the Scotts lost their car in the Grundy flood.

Area supervisors in the division's outlying offices and department heads in the Bluefield office served as coordinators in collecting the contributions, which were turned over to Division Superintendent McKinley Cornett. A total of \$1,600, along with an abundance of household items and clothing, was presented to Jack on April 4.

In a letter to division employees, Jack said: "I still have not completely recovered from my surprise and humility for the contributions which you made to me as a result of losing my home. Patricia and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your kindness. It was really amazing to us that so many of the employees who did not know us — or had even seen us — were willing to contribute.

"I remember some meetings we had with Mr. Belchee (division manager) last year in which he stated that 'through the years he had worked in the Bluefield Division he had considered the employees as one big family'. After this experience, I am very proud and happy to be a member of the Appalachian family."

APCO WINS TWO AWARDS IN AEP SAFETY CONTEST



Pictured at the presentation ceremony in New York are, l. to r., John W. Vaughan, Appalachian executive vice president; T. W. Old, manager of GO T&D's construction and maintenance division; T. W. Abolin, Clinch River Plant Manager; and W. S. White, Jr., AEP chairman.

Appalachian Power Company won two of four operating company categories in the 1977 American Electric Power annual safety competition. The General Office T&D Department was the winner of Group A1, and Clinch River Plant the winner of Group B2.

Units participating in the contest must have actual exposure to potentially hazardous conditions of 500,000 work hours (smaller groups) and 1,000,000 work hours (larger groups). Awards go to the units which have the lowest disabling injury index rate for the designated number of work hours.

Two trophies are awarded to operating divisions and general office T&D groups, with one presented to groups with 250 or more employees and one to those with fewer than 250 employees. Two trophies also go to power plants, again divided by size.

KINGSPORT POWER SEEKS RATE HIKE

Kingsport Power Company last month applied to the Tennessee Public Service Commission for a \$2.4 million annual increase in electric power rates.

It is the policy of the PSC to render a final decision on rate cases within six months. State law allows a maximum of nine months for a decision, with proposed rates going into effect, subject to refund, after six months.

John E. Faust, executive vice president of Kingsport Power, said the increase would apply uniformly to all residential, commercial and industrial customers. "Based on billings for the month of April, the increase for an average residential customer using 1500 kilowatt-hours would be \$3.25, or about 7.6 percent," he said.

"Kingsport Power has increased its basic rates only two times in the 61-year history of the company and the last of these two increases was necessary to recover an increase in our wholesale power cost," Faust said. "And even with this proposed increase, our residential rates will continue to be among the lowest in the nation."

Faust said that inflationary pressures over the past few years have caused drastic increases in the cost of operating the local power company and an increase in rates is necessary in order to continue to provide adequate and reliable customer service.

APCO REQUESTS \$51.2 MILLION RATE INCREASE IN VIRGINIA

Appalachian Power Company on May 1 applied to the Virginia State Corporation Commission for a \$51.2-million annual increase in rates from its Virginia retail customers. At the same time, the company notified state, county, and local governmental authorities it is increasing rates to those bodies by approximately \$1.8-million annually.

In its SCC filing, Appalachian requested that \$27.6-million of the \$51.2-million increase be placed into effect July 1, subject to refund with interest.

The Company is also seeking to recover from its Virginia customers approximately \$1.7-million of excess fuel transportation costs incurred during the coal strike. This adjustment would add approximately 40¢ a month to customer bills for each 1,000 kilowatt-hours used during the last six months of this year.

John W. Vaughan, executive vice president of Appalachian, said the \$51.2-million annual increase "is essential and must be granted if Appalachian in the long run is to be able to attract the necessary capital to meet its construction requirements.

"The July 1 interim increase of \$27.6-million, coupled with rate relief in West Virginia, is intended to provide the company with the minimum ability, by the fourth quarter of 1978, to finance its \$358.3-million construction program for the year. We do not now have this ability."

He explained that about \$157-million of the \$358.3-million construction program is the amount required to continue construction on the company's Mountaineer Plant and associated transmission lines, due for completion in the fall of 1980. "Failure to complete the plant before the winter of 1980-81 will mean a 16% shortfall in Appalachian's generating capacity, compared to projected demand," he said.

"The \$27.6-million would be subject to refund based on the Commission's final decision after hearings on the entire \$51.2-million increase," he added.

The rate application follows the filing on March 30 by Appalachian of its Annual Review with the SCC. In that filing, the company reported a revenue deficiency of about \$16.3-million below the 9.14% rate of return permitted the company by the SCC. The \$51.2-million rate increase represents a 10.01% rate

of return, which is required in view of the continuing increase in the cost of capital.

Vaughan said that Appalachian's 1977 earnings were the lowest since 1969, due to a combination of inadequate rate relief in the past and rapidly rising costs of doing business. "In fact, for the past two years, our earnings have not been sufficient to cover our common stock dividend."

Vaughan stressed the absolute necessity of maintaining the company's construction program by noting that customer demands continue to grow. "The 1976-77 winter peak customer demand was 8.9% over the comparable 1975-76 figure and the 1977-78 winter peak, adjusted for the reduction in mining load as a result of the coal strike, was 4494 megawatts, an increase of 6.3%.

"Our projections indicate that customer demands will continue to grow at an annual rate of about 6 to 7%. To meet this expected growth, it appears additional generating capacity must be placed in service by 1983-84, which means that for the foreseeable future, Appalachian will be required to invest between \$300-\$400 million annually in new facilities."

He went on: "Appalachian continues to face the same kind of inflationary pressures that affect everyone. In fact, a realistic look reveals that the cost of electricity has risen less drastically than the cost of many other services."

Vaughan said that the \$51.2-million represents a 20.5% average increase.

He gave the following examples of the effect of the increase on residential customers using varying amounts of electricity: "For residential customers using 300 kilowatt-hours a month, the \$51.2-million annual increase will mean a monthly increase of \$2.74; for a customer using 750 kilowatt-hours monthly, the increase would be \$5.51; for 1,000 kwh, \$7.05; for 2,000 kwh, \$13.30; and for 3,000 kwh, \$19.64.

Addressing himself to the \$1.8-million increase on state, county, and local governmental authorities, Vaughan said the amount represents an increase of about 26%. For some time, it has been recognized by many that the electric rates charged these bodies have not been adequate to cover the cost of serving them.

Vaughan continued: "Appalachian has completed a study of the cost of serving these customers. The 26% increase is the first step toward bringing the earnings from these customers in line with the company's other Virginia customers."

Returning to the retail rate increase request, Vaughan said that Appalachian has asked the Commission that hearings on the application commence at the earliest possible date.



John W. Vaughan, executive vice president of Appalachian Power, announces the company's rate filing in Virginia at a press conference in Roanoke, attended by area news media representatives.

WHITE: WE HAVE THE TOOLS, PEOPLE AND WILL FOR A GREAT FUTURE

Chairman W. S. White, Jr. told the 71st annual meeting of American Electric Power Company shareowners on April 26 that, despite great difficulties and great challenges facing both the company and the electric utility industry, things were looking up.

"We have had to meet a series of challenges that have tested the vitality of our industry," he said in way of introduction. Chief among the challenges have been these:

- Inflation, so persistent and severe that our construction and fuel costs have quadrupled in 10 years;
- Increasingly difficult and often unreasonable environmental requirements, so restrictive and subject to change that compliance seems an ever-moving target;
- Plant siting and licensing procedures, so complex that 50 to 60 permits from as many as 30 different government agencies may be needed before a new facility can be started, and
- Cost of capital and interest costs at historic highs

"Considering all of this," he said, "it would have been easy to have become discouraged or at least pessimistic about the future. But the point that I should like to have you keep in mind is that the AEP System is meeting these challenges — not without problems, to be sure — but they are being met."

White said the System had been able to weather the difficulties because of its basic strengths and because it supplies an essential service to a vital part of the nation. "And we are becoming stronger," he added.

He pointed to the System's basic strengths — its power supply, its transmission network, its coal-mining and delivery facilities, and its capabilities in engineering, design and research and development — and then cited his specific reasons for optimism for the future.

"We will soon be in an improved generation situation. By mid-year both nuclear units (at the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant) will be producing dependable power. By the year's end much of the massive program of retrofitting electrostatic precipitators . . . will be behind us.

"We anticipate continued steady growth in the System's internal load, which increased 7.6% last year.

"Industry is making a comeback. Last year saw a 9.3% gain in kilowatt-hours sales to our industrial customers, and the recovery trend is continuing.

"And we foresee the return of our external load — sales to other electric utilities — to its former levels. Actually, this market never went away. It was there all the time. We simply did not have, during a comparatively brief period last year, the extra generating capability to take advantage of it."

But the strongest of the System's strengths, he implied, was its people.

"We have just come through two winters that have tried men's souls," White said. "Our people were called upon to perform miracles to keep the electricity flowing — to light and heat homes and factories and places of business. They worked atop poles in icy winds to repair wires as thermometers registered -20°. They fought 10-foot snowdrifts to get their big line trucks through to snowbound locations, and when they bogged down, they resorted to snowmobiles to carry them the rest of the way. They battled ice on the rivers and on the coal piles. They performed far beyond the call of duty. Their performance and courage were remarkable. We are all proud of their efforts."

Then he concluded, "The electric power industry, as a vital and essential component of our society, has a great future. American Electric Power, as a leader and an integral part of that industry, has a great future, too. We have the tools, the people and the will to make it come to pass."

AEP SYSTEM NEWS BRIEFS

OPERATING COMPANIES ELECT DIRECTORS

Eight officers of the American Electric Power Service Corporation were elected directors of various AEP System companies at their respective board meetings last month, succeeding the retiring Robert O. Whitman. They are:

Peter J. DeMaria, vice president and treasurer, director of AEP Service Corporation, Ohio Electric Company and Ohio Power Company.

Richard E. Disbrow, vice chairman — administration, director of Twin Branch Railroad Company and Windsor Power House Coal Company.

John E. Dolan, senior executive vice president — engineering, director of Indiana & Michigan Power Company, Southern Appalachian Coal Company and Southern Ohio Coal Company.

John G. Howard, senior vice president — rates, director of Kingsport Power Company and Michigan Power Company.

G. P. Maloney, senior vice president — finance, director of Indiana & Michigan Electric Company.

T. J. Nagel, senior executive vice president, director of Appalachian Power Company and Wheeling Electric Company.

John Tillinghast, vice chairman — engineering and construction, director of Central Coal Company.

David H. Williams, Jr., senior vice president — operations, director of Central Appalachian Coal Company and Central Ohio Coal Company.

WHITMAN ENDS AEP CAREER

Robert O. Whitman, senior executive vice president and treasurer of the American Electric Power Service Corporation and chief accounting officer of the AEP System, retired April 30.

He was also treasurer of Appalachian Power and Kingsport Power Companies and a director of the Service Corporation and Appalachian Power and Kingsport Power Companies.

DEMARIA, D'ONOFRIO ELECTED

Peter J. DeMaria last month was elected treasurer of American Electric Power Company and of all its subsidiaries, including Appalachian and Kingsport Power Companies, effective May 1. He was also elected a senior vice president of the AEP Service Corporation.

In these capacities he will serve as the chief accounting officer for the AEP System, succeeding the retiring Robert O. Whitman. DeMaria had been an assistant treasurer of that company.

Also, William N. D'Onofrio was elected an assistant treasurer of the parent AEP Company. Already holder of this office in the Service Corporation, he has been with AEP and its treasury staff since 1972, except for two years in the Rate Department.

ROSE TAKEN BY DEATH

W. James Rose, 76, retired vice president and secretary of American Electric Power Company, died April 21 of an apparent heart attack while walking on a Manhattan street.

During much of his 37-year career with the AEP System, he had been responsible for its financing activities and had been the corporate secretary for all System companies.

WHEELING ELECTRIC INCREASES RATES

Wheeling Electric Company last month began collecting a \$2.6 million rate increase from its 39,400 retail customers, subject to refund pending final decision by the West Virginia Public Service Commission.

OPCO PLANS RATE HIKE

Ohio Power Company, in late March, notified the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio it plans to file an application in June for general retail rate increase of \$120 million. This forthcoming request would represent a hike of about 22% for about 600,000 customers.

LARRY DWON RETIRES AFTER 40 YEARS

Larry Dwon, manager of engineering manpower for AEP, the first and only holder of that assignment, retired April 30 after 40 years' service.

Since 1955, he has worked to improve the power industry's — and AEP's — relations with engineering schools.

GCFR RESEARCH SLATED

Helium Breeder Associates and General Atomic Company have signed an agreement providing for the latter to carry out approximately \$2 million of research, development and design work for HBA's gas-cooled fast breeder reactor (GCFR) development program.

The American Electric Power System is one of some 75 utility members of HBA, a nonprofit industry corporation organized in 1976 to consolidate utility efforts that could lead to GCFR power plants by the 1980s. Robert S. Hunter, AEP Service Corporation senior vice president — construction, is president of HBA, and

John Tillinghast, Service Corporation vice chairman — engineering and construction, is a director.

The new agreement provides for the rights of use by HBA of GCFR technology developed by General Atomic. The GCFR development began at General Atomic in 1961; the program has been supported by a number of utilities since 1965.

AMOS RETIRES FROM BOARD



John E. Amos, who has been on the American Electric Power Company board of directors since 1962, stepped down last month at the mandatory retirement age of 72.

A native of Charleston, West Virginia, Amos is presently a partner in the Charleston law firm of Amos & Brotherton. He has practiced law in Charleston since 1929.

Amos, for whom Appalachian Power Company's 2,900-megawatt Amos Plant is named, has long been a prominent figure in West Virginia politics. He served as a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates from Kanawha County for six two-year terms and was Speaker of the House for three of those terms. He was a member of the State Senate for eight years, serving as chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary and as majority leader in two sessions. He was also on the State Board of Regents for several years.

ANNUAL MEETING SIDELIGHTS

The annual shareowner's meeting April 26 at the Plaza, New York, was AEP's 71st. W. S. White's third as chairman, and the last for John E. Amos. He retired after 16 years as a director.

Approximately 400 attended the meeting.

The shareowners reelected 14 directors (all except the retiring Amos), approved a simplification of the company's certificate of incorporation, and okayed the issuance and sale of new shares of AEP common to the trustee for the AEP System Employees Savings Plan. Involved in the new corporate certificate was an increase in the number of authorized shares of AEP common from 125 million to 150 million.

A moment's silence was observed in memory of Philip Sporn retired president, and W. James Rose, retired vice president and secretary, both of whom died earlier this year.

In response to a shareowner's question, Chairman White said that he didn't see any prospects for a "dramatic" improvement in earnings per share over the next few years. "I believe we're going to see what we hope will be a steady improvement," he added.

White said that he believed that the new Rockport Plant, being built by Indiana & Michigan Electric Company, would be the last built on the AEP System without the requirement of scrubbers for removal of sulfur from gaseous emissions.

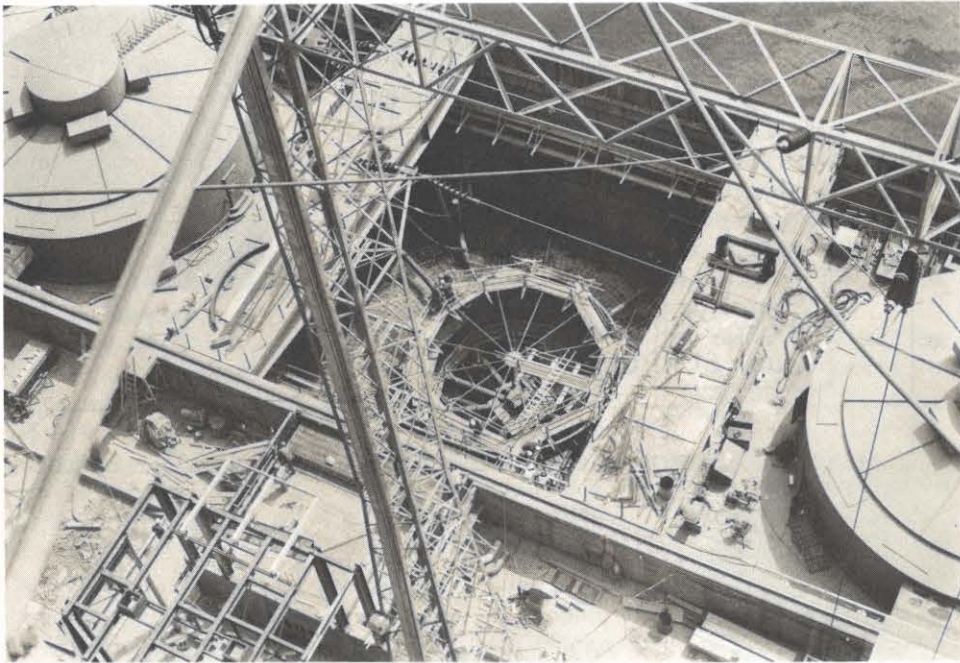
Commenting on energy legislation now in Congress White said that, as oil and gas become "dearer and more scarce," there will be a conversion to electric energy. "I fully expect that by the end of this century the larger portion of the total energy used in the United States will be furnished by electricity."

A shareowner suggested that AEP power plants burn human wastes as a fuel, citing proven technology in that field. The reply was to the effect that the AEP System serves only comparatively small communities and that such systems would be feasible only in larger cities.



The 173 employees of the Clinch River Plant completed 1,000,000 safe work hours on March 10. The record began February 15, 1975. This is the second time that Clinch River Plant has reached this pinnacle. Plant Manager T. W. Abolin, left, accepts a certificate of merit for the achievement from J. W. Kepner, Appalachian Power executive assistant.

CONSTRUCTION ON UNIT AT SMITH MOUNTAIN DAM PROGRESSING ON SCHEDULE



Construction work on the fifth generating unit at Appalachian Power's Smith Mountain Dam on Roanoke River, which began in April 1977, is progressing on schedule.

The new unit, which will be the third reversible pump turbine at the plant, is expected to be in operation in early 1979. The unit will have a generating capacity of 100,000 kilowatts, bringing the generating capacity of Smith Mountain Dam to 560,000 kilowatts. Leesville Dam, the lower dam in the two-dam Smith Mountain Hydroelectric and Pumped Storage Project, has a generating capacity of 40,000 kilowatts.

Installation of the spiral casing and pit liner has been completed and work is under way on concrete imbedment of the casing and liner. The turbine shaft has been received and the turbine runner was due to be shipped by the end of April. Assembly on the turbine should start around the middle of May.

Reinforcement of the penstock on unit 3 has been completed and movable trash racks, with a new hoist, have been installed. Construction of a new warehouse, which will become a permanent fixture at the dam site, has been completed. Work is under way on other yard buildings which will house electrical equipment and a new compressor.

Construction employment is expected to peak at about 150. There are presently 135 workers at the site. The project is being supervised by Earle Snodgrass, construction manager, and R. W. Palmer, assistant construction manager. Others assisting are Aaron Giles, civil; Harry Wood, electrical; Ron Cook and Chuck Douthit, mechanical; Howard Huck, officer manager, who was at Smith Mountain during the original construction; Ken Fridley, storeroom manager; and Ron Clark, concrete.

Dick Corporation/Contractors of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is general contractor for the project. Allis-Chalmers of York, Pa., designed and manufactured the pump turbine, and Richardson-Wayland Electrical Corporation of Roanoke is doing the electrical work.

SHABDUE CO-CHAIRS WEST VIRGINIA CITY PROGRAM

"Appalachian Power Company was very pleased to participate with the State Chamber of Commerce in its 1977-78 'All West Virginia City' program," says Hubert K. Shabdue, General Office area development consultant in Charleston. "We have always been interested in the area we serve and especially the well being of its citizens."

Shabdue and C. L. Smithson, manager of community development for Monongahela Power Company, were co-chairmen of the program.

Shabdue continues, "This program was designed to stimulate community development and improvement in every city and town in West Virginia regardless of its population or area. 'All West Virginia City' is sponsored by the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce and its business and industry membership all over the state.

"Entry communities may be involved in any of ten or more categories of progress and development, including: tourism, industry and business development, retail stores and trade, community planning, local government, recreation and culture, health and welfare, education, ecology and energy."

Local group meetings were held throughout the state to acquaint civic leaders with the program and how they could tailor it to their specific needs. Sixty-nine cities applied, and 19 were chosen as finalists. The physical entry consisted of a written report and slide set of the city.

Governor John D. Rockefeller presented awards to the winning cities at a luncheon in Charleston on April 12. Those in Appalachian's service area are Ceredo, Beckley, Dunbar, Huntington, Oak Hill, Point Pleasant and Williamson. Honorable mention went to Ansted, Charleston, Fayetteville, Mason and Mt. Hope.



The 88 employees of Appalachian Power's General Office Operating Department completed two million consecutive safe work hours on March 23. Their record began January 18, 1966. Gene M. Gillock, system operations manager (left), is presented a certificate of merit by John W. Vaughan, Appalachian executive vice president.



The 135 employees of the Roanoke General Group reached one million work hours without a disabling injury on February 17. Their record began July 24, 1974. To celebrate the achievement, employees and their spouses were treated to a buffet dinner at the Airport Holiday Inn in Roanoke last month. Certificates of merit were presented to representatives of each of the departments comprising the General Group by E. L. Munday, Appalachian vice president. From left, Joe Plunk, superintendent, hydro generation; Lawson Bailey, customer services manager; Bill McClung, public affairs director; Joe Clouser, purchasing and stores director; Rosemary Price, secretary, GO Executive; Ron Hively, director of tariffs, rates and contracts; Larry Dougan, personnel supervisor, GO Personnel; and Joe Wilson, Jr., land management supervisor.



The Philip Sporn Plant met the requirements for safety certification by Appalachian Power and Employers Insurance of Wausau in an inspection conducted February 28-March 2. The first requirement for certification is an overall rating average of 3.5 for the several categories; Sporn's average was 3.76. The second requirement is that the plant's disabling injury index rate for a designated period prior to the inspection be lower than the AEP rate for the same period. Sporn's rate for the period January 1, 1977, through December 31, 1977, is 3.887 versus the AEP rate of 6.127. Plant Manager E. H. Gloss, left, receives a certificate of excellence from John W. Vaughan, executive vice president of Appalachian.

KEEPING COOK COAL TERMINAL OPEN WAS KEY TO AEP SUCCESSFULLY PASSING THROUGH STRIKE

In the cold light of history, it may be that the successful passage of the American Electric Power System through the recent 110-day coal strike was determined by the pivotal decision made at the highest levels of System management to re-open and keep open the Cook Coal Terminal at Metropolis, Illinois. The strike began December 6 and ended March 26.

That decision, made December 27, was one "that had to be made," in the words of AEP Chairman W. S. White, Jr., even though there were some risks involved. Recollections of the damage wrought only 13 days earlier by a violent mob of as many as 200 striking Illinois miners, which had closed down the terminal, were still fresh in the corporate mind. Now, however, the Illinois State Police and local police had made their own determination to preserve the peace and at the same time to guarantee the right of the company to operate, the right of the United Mine Workers to picket, and the right of terminal employees to go to work without harassment.

So, following a few days of conferences with the police, injunctions, restraining orders, and so on, the terminal re-opened on January 4. As supervisory personnel operated the plant and hourly personnel returned a few at a time, the first loaded tow set off without incident for Ohio Power Company's General James M. Gavin Plant.

Confrontation

The principal confrontation after the terminal re-opened occurred January 9, a grim early morning business. Well over 100 carloads of picketers arrived to find police at the terminal in force, supported by helicopters. The highway was blocked by the miners' cars, and only when the police said they would use tear gas if necessary did the mob disperse. The back of the effort to shut down the terminal by force was broken that day, although legal picketing continued for the remainder of the strike, and there were scattered threats of violence.

There is no doubt that an operating terminal and the AEP System's extensive fleet of river towboats and barges kept it in business for the longest miners' strike in history, accounting for nearly 1.5-million tons (51%) of the coal delivered to the System's generating plants during its 110 days.

Just the same, even this circumstance was the product of other, earlier decisions. How did the System manage to get through the coal strike in such relatively good shape? There is an answer for each person asked.

In New York, Ted Nagel, senior executive vice president and assistant to the chairman, says it was because foresight and planning years ago had the whole system machinery in place and functioning. In Canton, Ohio, Don Nofsinger, vice president-operations — who became something of a media hero during the strike — declares that survival was a result of unequalled transmission network strength and interconnections. And in Lancaster, Ohio, Bill Bell, general manager-transportation of the Fuel Supply Department, says it was the coal, the facilities, and the willingness and determination of people to get the job done.

They are all correct, of course, and in this case, the sum of the parts is greater than the whole.

Command Post

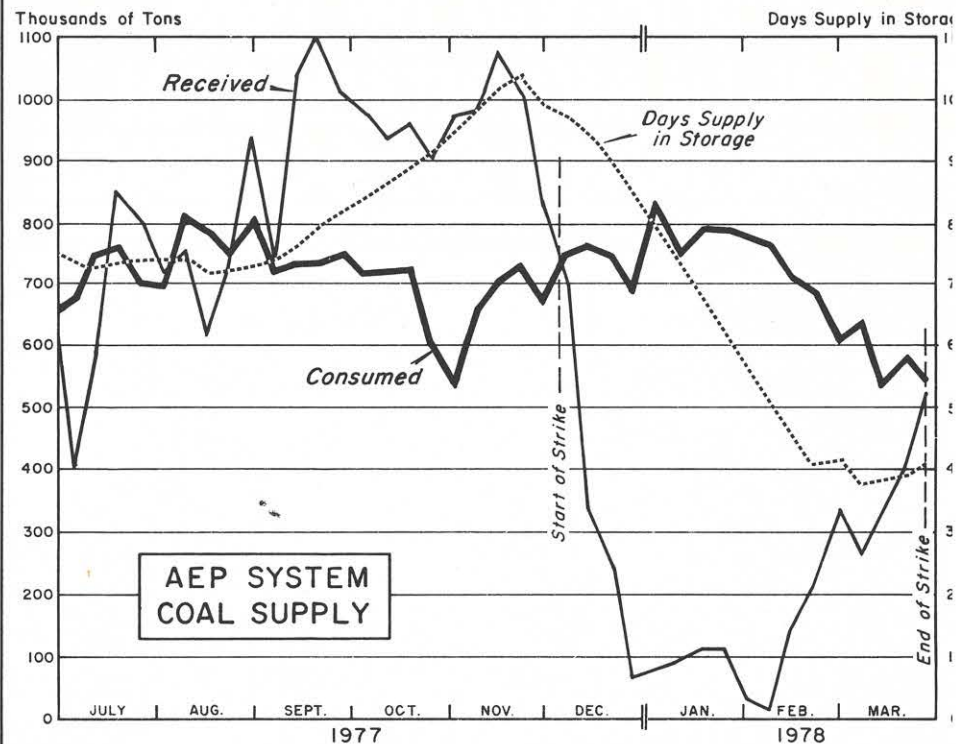
The center of operations was, as always, in Canton. There, Nofsinger was featured in the *New York Times*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Detroit News*, *Canton Repository*, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Columbus Dispatch*, and *Akron Beacon-Journal* and on one radio and five television stations. Looking over his shoulder all the while were representatives of the U. S. Department of Energy, which actually established an office there, and for some of the time, men from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Office of Electric Power Regulation. (Nofsinger, a dry-witted Virginian, was asked by one reporter what he would do if the strike should continue for many more weeks. "Go to three packs a day," he said.)

From this office, Nofsinger had two principal responsibilities to go along with the System Operation Department's normal job of loading the System's plants and transmission lines. The first was to implement at the proper times the various provisions of the load-curtailement programs filed by AEP System companies with their respective state regulatory commissions. The second was to act as an electric power traffic director for fuel-poor utilities in need.

This made him, in the words of one newspaper reporter, "a good man to know," and involved almost hour-by-hour contact with the 23 neighboring utilities with which the AEP System is connected by 100 high-voltage interconnections.



Scene outside the Cook Coal Terminal during the picketing.



Buying and Selling

Who has available power? When? How much? For how long? Early every morning, these arrangements were made by System Operation, with each utility putting in its order, so to speak, trusting that AEP would get the best deal available. Late in the strike, AEP itself began buying relatively small amounts for its own account as the curtailment steps began to take effect.

The System itself, thanks to the efforts of the Fuel Supply Department, entered the strike period with a greater supply of coal on the ground than ever before, enough to last 105 days at normal System burn rates. Yet, when the strike ended late in March, there was still 40 days' worth of coal on the ground. Was this the result of black, as it were, magic?

Not really.

In the early days of the strike, deliveries of coal to the System — by rail, barge or truck — had been sharply curtailed. As time went on, several developments took place to increase deliveries; but initially, the System lived off the supply on hand, which had been built up amazingly fast after a number of wildcat strikes that took place in July and August.

Curtailement

By late fall, with the prospect of a miners' strike growing, each System company filed a curtailment program with its appropriate state commission. This plan, essentially the same for the seven states, laid out in complete detail the increasingly stringent steps to be taken by the company if the strike should continue.

For example, when coal stocks reached 50 days, System Operation would discontinue "economic dispatch," the procedure by which the most efficient plants are loaded on the System, in favor of a "levelized" approach by which plants with the largest coal stocks would take over more of the generation burden. All economy sales to neighboring utilities would be suspended, and major curtailments in company use of energy would take place. That magic moment was reached early in February, which by coincidence, was also the period of the lowest daily coal delivery of the strike, less than 3,800 tons. This trifling amount was a reflection not so much of the effects of the coal strike, but of the disastrous weather conditions that had hit the Ohio River Valley. For the better part of three weeks, locks in the river were frozen solid, and old-timers had to go back only to the year before to recall conditions as bad.

Within four weeks after the river was re-opened, coal was being delivered in ever-increasing quantities, except for one brief period in March, until the end of the strike.

Burning Oil

Because consumption was still out-stripping delivery, the 40-day stockpile level was reached in early March, sagged as low as 36 within a few days, then moved up past 40 by the end of the month as deliveries picked up. Part of the recovery was also due to the steps taken under Phase II of the curtailment plan. The System began burning oil at some plants at the rate of about 800,000 gallons a day, which works out to a saving of 5,000-6,000 tons of coal; in addition a voltage reduction of 5% was applied across the System.

These steps were not noticeable to any degree by customers. Where they did begin to feel a slight pinch in consumption habits was in the call that was then forthcoming for voluntary reductions in power use. This was not originally in the plan, which had simply called for an appeal. However, several states departed from the plan and called for 10% to 25% reductions, and the Indiana Public Service Commission in fact mandated cuts of varying sizes for different classes of customers. In Ohio, as industry was forced to cut back, some unemployment resulted. And across the System the somber game of watch-the-stockpile began, for, at 30 days, the time for real worry would come.

All during March the System experienced a rising rate of coal deliveries from non-union eastern mines, especially in western Virginia. Other utilities found coal from various sources, and AEP itself had offers of coal from such exotic places as Australia, Poland and even mainland China. All were refused, as was the proposition of one man who offered coal from Virginia to be delivered by truck to Muncie, Indiana.

By the time the record strike ended, the System was receiving coal in sufficient volume that stockpiles were on the rise. Nevertheless, the settlement was greeted with relief by everyone.

The System in all its ramifications had been tested, and had passed. Paraphrasing the cleric who was asked what he did during the French Revolution, AEP could reply, "We survived."

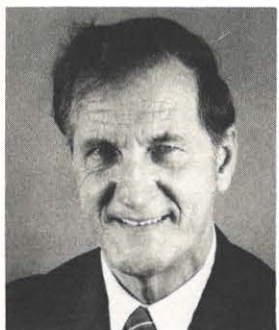
MOVING UP



C. Rudy Wooten, former safety director of Appalachian Power, was promoted to manager — safety and health in the AEP Service Corporation Personnel Department, New York, on April 1. He holds a BS degree in economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and attended the AEP System Management Training Program. Wooten will move to New York in the near future.



James Anderson, former engineering supervisor for Indiana & Michigan Electric Company in Fort Wayne, was promoted to electrical engineering superintendent in Appalachian Power's General Office T&D Department, Roanoke, on May 1. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from Colorado A&M College and has attended the AEP System Management Training Program at the University of Michigan.



Jerry J. Fain, former meter electrician A, was promoted to meter service supervisor in Charleston on February 16. He succeeds J. B. Eplin, who is on LTD leave. Fain attended Perry Business College.



Richard L. Isner, former electric plant clerk A in General Office Accounting, was promoted to assistant stores supervisor in Roanoke Division on April 1. He will succeed A. M. Beatty, stores supervisor, upon Beatty's retirement September 1. Isner holds a BS degree in business administration from Morris Harvey College.



Jerry L. Vest, former customer accounting supervisor NE in Beckley, was promoted to administrative assistant in the Lynchburg Division on May 1. He succeeds Steve Jamison, who was promoted earlier. Vest holds a BS degree in business administration from Morris Harvey College.



Barry L. Long, former Huntington power engineer, was promoted to area supervisor in the Gate City area of Abingdon Division on April 16. He holds a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering from West Virginia University and a master's degree in business administration from Marshall University.



Lloyd Linkous, former assistant personnel supervisor, was promoted to personnel supervisor of Bluefield Division on May 1. He succeeds Carol Shockey, whose retirement is announced elsewhere in this issue.



Robert L. Kincaid, II, former production superintendent, was promoted to field maintenance superintendent for Centralized Plant Maintenance on March 1. He holds an associate of science degree in mechanical engineering from West Virginia Institute of Technology.



Edward Allen Hensley, former station operator A, was promoted to regional dispatcher in Charleston on April 1.



R. L. Hardy, former line crew supervisor NE, was promoted to the exempt position of service supervisor in Beckley on March 16.



James R. Kinnett, former production superintendent, was promoted to field maintenance superintendent for Centralized Plant Maintenance on March 1.

STAIR PLANS TO KEEP BUSY



Arthur W. Stair, Kingsport residential services coordinator, elected early retirement May 1 after more than 40 years' service.

Art began his career as a clerk in the Engineering Department. "My first job," he recalls, "was making a system inventory. Then I was assigned to the Meter Department until entering the Army in 1941."

After serving in North Africa and Italy, Art was discharged as a first lieutenant and returned to work as a commercial sales representative. "I worked the first residential electric heating job in Kingsport in 1946 and have watched the number grow until we now have over 62 percent of our homes heated electrically."

He continues, "When I joined Kingsport Power in 1937, we had 4,000 customers and 109 employees. Now we have 32,000 customers and 109 employees. The advanced technology, especially the introduction of computers, has been the greatest change I've witnessed."

Art, a man of many skills, enjoys working in his home workshop. He designed and con-

structed the first revolving Christmas tree in Kingsport's Church Circle. When the company was promoting appliances and electric heat, he built several displays for use in local shows, fairs and the lobby of the main office building.

Art has also built a trailer and boat and recently completed a new home on Fort Patrick Henry Lake. He also enjoys model railroading and water skiing.

Art says, "I'm looking forward to having enough time to do the things I enjoy. I want to make several improvements to our home, and we are thinking about a trip to Europe this summer."

Art and his wife Marjorie, who worked for 10 years as a secretary in the Engineering Department, have two children and two grandchildren. They are members of the First Baptist Church in Kingsport.

MICHIGAN SCHOLARS PICKED

Ten Appalachian Power employees are among those attending the American Electric Power System Management Training Program at the University of Michigan from April 17 to May 12.

They are: A. H. Hill, maintenance superintendent, John E. Amos; D. R. Simonton, production superintendent — maintenance, Philip Sporn; R. J. Cruickshank, plant engineer, Kanawha River; J. R. Kinnett, production superintendent, Centralized Plant Maintenance; and W. F. Valley, line superintendent, Roanoke.

Also, H. E. Ruloff, Jr., engineering supervisor, Logan; G. E. Laurey, accounting staff assistant senior, GO Accounting — Roanoke; D. D. Taylor, customer services manager, Abingdon; J. C. Barker, personnel supervisor, Beckley; and Roy Spencer, Jr., personnel supervisor, Kanawha River.

BROWN ENDS CAREER



William Henry Brown, Clinch River Plant stores supervisor, retired May 1.

A native of Lebanon, Virginia, Henry attended Bluefield College. He joined the company in 1937 as a laborer and worked as a groundman, lineman and serviceman in Bluefield and the old Clinch Valley District, which later became a part of Abingdon Division. Henry recalls that he started working with Jim Davis' line crew at 35 cents an hour. He was promoted to field time and material clerk at Abingdon in 1952 and became T&D clerk in 1958. That same year he transferred to Clinch River and was head material clerk before being named stores supervisor in 1975.

In his spare time, Henry enjoys hunting and fishing. A widower, he has three children and five grandchildren.

LAWRENCE RETIRES EARLY



Roy Eston Lawrence, Pulaski head T&D clerk, elected early retirement May 1.

A native of Floyd County, Virginia, he began his career in 1945 as a clerk intermediate. Roy also worked as a senior distribution record clerk, field time and material clerk, and junior and senior T&D clerk.

POWER PEOPLE MAKING NEWS

Bluefield



Marilyn Mitchell, wife of Bill Mitchell, line mechanic A on LTD leave, was installed as Worthy Matron of the Florence Ann Chapter No. 133, Order of Eastern Star in Grundy. **Sybil Hardy**, wife of Alonza Hardy, general servicer, was installed as Truth. **Juanita Crouse**, wife of Walter Crouse, general servicer, was appointed Esther. **Mary Brown**, widow of Forrest Brown, former T&D clerk, was installing grand secretary.

Diane Fanning, wife of "Buck" Fanning, building supervisor, will fill the appointive office of Ruth in the Bluefield, Va., Order of Eastern Star Chapter 102.

Attending the 72nd convention of the West Virginia Federation of Women's Clubs at The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., were **Dottie Lawless**, secretary-stenographer, outgoing president of the Keystone-Northfork Woman's Club; **Helen Vermillion**, wife of John Vermillion, meter superintendent, newly installed president of the Bluefield Woman's Club; and **Jane Meadows**, wife of Howard Meadows, electrical engineer senior, newly installed first vice president of the Bluefield Civic League. Jane was also appointed to the office of West Virginia Federation musician.

Ken Roberts, Welch power engineer, served on a seven-judge panel at the annual Buchanan County Science Fair at Hurley High School.

Evelyn Martin, wife of Jack Martin, Pineville area supervisor, was elected recording secretary of the Preceptor Chi Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. She will also serve the club as representative of the City Council.

William C. Sexton, Jr., son of William "Ray" Sexton, was promoted to chief aviation machinist's mate while serving with Attack Squadron 22, Naval Air Station, Lemoore, California.

Pamela Yates, a sophomore at Grundy Senior High School, won first place for French poetry in an area language festival held at Southwest Virginia Community College. She is the daughter of Onsbie A. Yates, Grundy office supervisor.



Kelli Ann Simpson, daughter of Terry Simpson, engineering technician, won first-place trophies in special basic strut and fancy strut and a ribbon in special best in the Eastern Regional Twirling Contest at Bluefield State College.

Debbie Davidson, daughter of John Davidson, T&D clerk A, received the Gold Cup Award for excellence in the dance field at the 11th Annual West Virginia Ballet Festival. She was also presented an award for being in the top ten of one hundred students auditioning for a summer scholarship at North Carolina School of the Arts. Debbie has studied dance for seven years at Bluefield Dance Theatre. She also won a blue ribbon in poetry in the Mercer County Curriculum Fair.

Charleston

Anna Cyphers, secretary, was elected vice president of the Woman's Club of Charleston, Junior Department, for a two-year term.

Ronnie Charlton was a member of the Stonewall Jackson High School AAA basketball team which made it to the state championship playoff. Logan, perennial state champs, eliminated Stonewall Jackson in the semi-finals. Ronnie is the son of Mona Sue Charlton, PBX operator.

James Griffith, son of Line Superintendent R. R. Griffith, placed third in both the Kanawha County Mathematics Field Day and the Region 3 Meet. Activities included written tests, mental math, measurement estimating in metric, math card games and relays. James' team, George Washington High School, was the winner of the team events at the Kanawha County Field Day.

Clinch River



Michael W. Pruitt won first place in mine maintenance repair as a representative of the Russell County Vocational School in the District IX Vocational Industrial Clubs of America contest at Gate City, Va. He is the son of Charles H. Pruitt, maintenance mechanic A.



Mark A. Pruitt, son of Charles H. Pruitt, took third place in the Lebanon Elementary School Science Fair with his exhibit, "How The Switch Works".

General Office

Randy Weddle was a member of the first-place team in the "D" Division of the Roanoke City-County Junior Bowling Tournament. The son of Kathy Weddle, payroll clerk, GO Accounting, he was presented a trophy at the "celebrity bowl" banquet for junior bowlers.

Paulette Roberts, wife of Ken H. Roberts, regional dispatcher, GO Operations, Roanoke, coached the Bethlehem Baptist Church Blue Devils boys' basketball team to the Roanoke County Open Church League championship. The Blue Devils, with 9 wins and 3 losses, tied Fallon Park Baptist Church for first place at the end of the regular season. The Blue Devils won the championship playoff with a score of 47-29. This was Paulette's first year as a basketball coach and the team's first year in the league.

Janie Ollie and Pat Reavis, key entry operators, GO Accounting, Roanoke, completed the 15-mile March of Dimes Walk-A-Thon. Pat had 48 sponsors who pledged a total of \$72; Janie's 70 sponsors pledged \$122.75.

Rhonda Bowers, daughter of Shirley Bowers, secretary, GO T&D R/e & R/w, Roanoke, tied for the eighth graders' first-place award in the science fair at Botetourt Intermediate School. Her exhibit was entitled "The Wonders of Crystals".

Helen Sabo, stenographer, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield, was reelected secretary of the Abbs Valley-Boisevain Elementary PTA.

Glen Lyn



Jeffrey Todd Kingrea is a member of the Timberlake Hardware basketball team which was the 1978 tournament champion. The son of George E. Kingrea, chemist assis-

tant, Todd is a sixth grader at King Johnston School.

Huntington

JoAnn King, wife of Personnel Supervisor Bob King, was presented a sterling silver necklace by Huntington's Manpower, Inc., office. She received the jewelry for working at least 400 hours during the year and receiving an excellent rating from her employer. She was selected one of 170 "secretaries of the year in the U. S." in national Manpower competition.

Velma McMahan, wife of Point Pleasant Area Manager W. C. McMahan, was the instructor for a drapery workshop sponsored by the Mason County Extension Homemakers.

W. C. McMahan was appointed to the street and major thoroughfare development and improvement committee by the Point Pleasant Planning Commission.

Kingsport



H. D. Gillenwater, station mechanic A, was elected vice president of the Avoca Volunteer Fire Department and was awarded a trophy as "fireman of the year".

Logan-Williamson

Penny Davis, daughter of Logan Line Crew Supervisor Marion Davis, and a classmate won a third-place ribbon for their project, "The Liberty Bell" at the social studies fair held at Logan Central Junior High School. The project qualified for entry in the regional social studies fair in Huntington.

Mary Elizabeth Davis, secretary-stenographer, is a delegate from the Logan Women's Bowling Association, to the Women's International Bowling Congress at Miami Beach, Florida.

Mary Elizabeth is treasurer of the West Virginia Women's Bowling Association.



Leslie Jean Justice, daughter of Leonard W. Justice, Williamson meter electrician A, won first place in the clerk-typist I divisional competition at the Southern Sectional Leadership Conference held at Bluefield State College. A senior at Williamson High School, she advanced to state competition to be held at Marshall University.

Elected officers of the Xi Sigma Chapter, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, were: **Mary S. Randan**, Logan customer accounts representative B, vice president; **Mary Rose Watson**, wife of Logar Service Supervisor Gary Watson, second vice president; **Debbie Bailey**, Logan customer accounts representative B, treasurer; and **Emmajane Bird**, wife of Line Mechanic A Larry Bird, extension officer.

Mark Kessinger, son of Residential Advisor Mary Kessinger, will serve as a legislative delegate to the YMCA's 17th annual Youth-in-Government program in Charleston. He is a senior at Williamson High School.



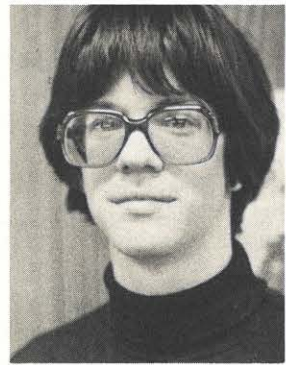
Ronnie Horne, a junior at Williamson High, represented his school at the United High School Press Convention held at Marshall University's School of Journalism. The son of Ronald K. Horne, Sr., Williamson engineering technician Ronnie is sports editor and artist for Williamson High's "Pack Post". The "Pack Post" won several honors at the convention.

Lynchburg

W. David Crews, personnel supervisor, was elected vice president of the American Association of Personnel Administration of Central Virginia.

Mary Virginia Dalton, wife of J. W. Dalton, station mechanic B, was installed as worthy matron of the Forest, Va., Order of Eastern Star.

Pulaski



Scott Kilgore, son of Division Superintendent R. B. Kilgore, was awarded a VPI & SU Alumni Presidential Scholarship. Chosen through testing and personal interview, Scott will receive \$1000 per school year if he remains on the dean's list.

F. G. Fowler, Jr., drafter B, was elected state director from the Fort Chiswell Jaycee Chapter for 1978-79.

L. L. Bucklen, engineer B, was elected chairman of the finance committee of Wytheville's West End United Methodist Church.

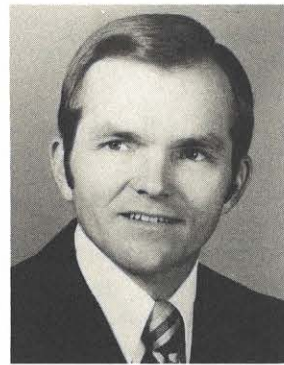
Durward and Ophelia Smith were reelected worthy patron and worthy matron, respectively, of Dublin Chapter #85, Order of Eastern Star. He is a surveyor.



Jenni Boulton, daughter of Residential Representative J. R. Boulton, received the Most Valuable Gymnast award at the special awards banquet held at Pulaski County High School. She was one of three on her team to participate in the Group AAA Northwest Regionals. The team finished second with a 7-1 record in the Roanoke Valley District.

C. A. Shepherd, Hillsville area supervisor A, placed third with a 16-inch trout in the Western Auto trout fishing contest. He was awarded a rod and reel.

Roanoke



Bob Ragland, drafter A, and Charlie Anderson, former temporary draftsman, coached the North Roanoke Hawks Pee Wee basketball team to the Roanoke County Division championship.

Dale Ragland, son of Bob Ragland, won a first-place blue ribbon with his butterfly display in the annual science fair at Breckinridge Junior High School.

Margie Cahill, residential representative, was elected secretary of the West Central Volunteer 4-H Leaders Association.

Betty Martin, wife of Doug A. Martin, head T&D clerk, was a member of the Dupont team which participated in the state bowling tournament at Lynchburg.

Teresa West, daughter of Helen West, personnel assistant senior, received a superior rating in the National Federation Junior Piano Festival in Vinton.

R. D. Webster, division manager, was reelected to a one-year term on the board of directors of the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce.

Philip Sporn



Joni Clark, daughter of Unit Supervisor D. D. Clark, will be a Bend Area delegate to Girls' State. A junior at Wahama High School, she is a member of the marching, concert,

stage and pep bands; secretary, National Honor Society; statistician, varsity basketball team; and member, Girls' Softball League. She is also a member of the Society of Distinguished American High School Students, the Letart Pioneers 4-H Club, and was elected "student of the month" for March by Bend Rotary Club.

CREDIT UNION EARNS AWARD

The Clinch River Plant Employees Federal Credit Union has earned a National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) Thrift Honor Award for its success in stimulating savings.

According to Bernard M. Ganzfried, regional director of NCUA Region III (Atlanta), the credit union attained a monthly growth rate of 3.2 percent, well above the average for federal credit unions of similar size.

The Clinch River credit union was chartered in 1958. On January 31, 1978, it had 250 members with \$260,957 total savings. Sammy Glover, maintenance mechanic B, is president and Charles Pruitt, maintenance mechanic A, is treasurer.

BLOOD DONOR HONOR ROLL

General Office

C. Michael Thacker, hydro engineer senior, GO Hydro, Roanoke, one gallon.

Logan-Williamson

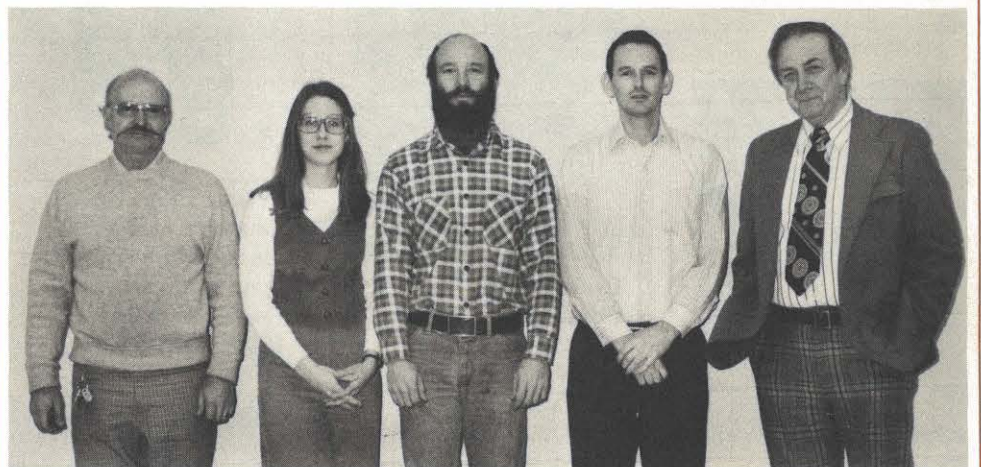
C. W. Broughton, line inspector, four gallons.



O. V. Middlekauff, transmission station supervisor, GO T&D, Roanoke, and his son Gordon display some of their model airplanes which won ribbons in the Model Aircraft Show at Roanoke's Woodrum Field. In the last two years, Vic and Gordon have won three first-place, two second-place and three third-place ribbons on their stick model World War II aircraft. The plane in the background is a Piedmont YS-11.



Kim Dodson, daughter of Jerry Dodson, drafter A, GO T&D Civil Engineering, Roanoke, was awarded first place in the engineering division of the Breckinridge Junior School Science Fair. Her project follows the generation of electricity from the coal pile to the customer and tells a brief history of electrical discoveries.



Serving as officers of the Abingdon Division Employees' Club for 1978 are, l. to r., A. S. Buchanan, president; Linda B. Anderson, secretary; C. D. Coulthard, vice president; E. F. Sutherland, treasurer (service center); and L. C. Angle, Jr., treasurer (Abingdon office).

SYSTEM COUPLES MARRY



Donna Sherian Lingar, daughter of Charles S. Lingar, Kingsport public affairs assistant, to Ricky A. Strong, April 1.



Ruth Ferguson, Roanoke customer accounts representative B, to Oliver E. Vipperman, April 15.



Donna Hughes Taylor to **Paul Victor Kelsey, Jr.**, son of P. V. Kelsey, retired Abingdon customer services manager, March 11.



Patricia Suzanne Fowler, daughter of G. C. Fowler, express driver, General Office General Services, Huntington, to William Ronald Wassum, December 31, 1977.



Deborah Lynn Machir, daughter of W. F. Machir, retired Huntington T&D records supervisor, to John Preston Lee Hickel, December 30, 1977.



Brenda S. Kirby to **Charles R. Weaver**, maintenance mechanic B, Centralized Plant Maintenance, March 18.



Regina F. Davis, customer accounts representative C at Galax in the Pulaski Division, to Rex A. Isom, April 8.



Tamre Sue Chambers, daughter of H. L. Chambers, purchasing assistant, GO Purchasing, Roanoke, to William Gary Crismond, April 10.

Marilyn Audrey Moore to **William Elliott McAlpine, Jr.**, son of Bennett McAlpine, Kingsport residential advisor, March 18.



Edna N. Bone, Bluefield office messenger, to **Alfred H. White**, Bluefield photographer and reproducer, March 17.



Diana Lynn Mowell to **Kenneth R. Hickman**, Kingsport line mechanic D, March 18.



Elizabeth Lynn Perry, daughter of C. Nolan Perry, Kanawha River Plant unit supervisor, to Charles Turner Simons, Jr., March 25.



Teresa Ellen Harris, daughter of Walter Harris, Huntington line crew supervisor, to Dana Stewart Hall, March 24.



Linda Lee Judge to **David M. Nance**, Roanoke electrical engineer, March 18.

BABY PARADE

Abingdon
Amanda Beth, daughter of **J. W. Vencille**, Lebanon meter reader, March 28.

Robert Shayne, son of **R. O. McGlocklin, Jr.**, line mechanic B, March 23.

Beckley
Sarah Ann, daughter of **James Michael Hunt**, drafter C, March 22.

Bluefield
Brandon Jawyan, son of **Patricia B. Banks**, customer accounts representative C, April 11.

Jesse Joe, son of **Jesse J. Ruble**, surveyor assistant-rod, March 18.

Stuart Dwayne, son of **Stuart Thomason**, T&D clerk C, April 5.

Central Machine Shop
Jonathan Carl, son of **Carlton Asbury**, winder 1st class, April 5.

Charleston
Elisa Kim, daughter of **Eugene A. Smith**, engineer B, March 23.
Andrew Scott, son of **Rodger D. Woodrum**, commercial engineer, March 30.

Clinch River
Jacob Allen, son of **Jimmie Musick**, maintenance mechanic A, February 23.

General Office
Michael Wade, son of **R. W. Looney**, station mechanic A, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, April 7.

Angela Marie, daughter of **Randall L. Minnix**, data processing operator B, GO Accounting, Roanoke, March 26.

Suzanne Jean, daughter of **D. G. Bird**, control electrician A, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, April 15.

Corey Bernard, son of **Marion Latimer**, transmission mechanic D, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield, March 27.

Brent Marshall, son of **W. D. Humphrey**, engineering technologist, GO T&D Station, Roanoke, April 23.

Cheryl Ann, daughter of **D. W. Carter**, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Abingdon, February 19.

Glen Lyn
Susan Rhea, daughter of **Carol C. Thompson**, personnel clerk A, April 12.

Kanawha River
Ryan Danyell, daughter of **B. C. Nicholson**, maintenance mechanic A, March 11.

Tikisha Nicole, daughter of **Troy A. Simley**, utility man A, March 23.

Logan-Williamson
Timothy Aaron, son of **William Moseley**, Logan electrical engineer, February 24.

Mitzi Genene, daughter of **Lawrence A. Bird**, Logan line mechanic A, April 8.

Mountaineer
Heidi Louise, daughter of **Paul "Rich" Gleason**, construction timekeeper II, March 18.

Anissa Beth, daughter of **Hobert M. Lowe**, civil construction assistant I, Sporn FAP, March 21.

Roanoke
Toshua Ranae, daughter of **Kelvin T. Bradshaw**, Fieldale meter reader, March 16.

Philip Sporn
Brian Scott, son of **M. D. Bevan**, maintenance mechanic B, April 1.

CAROL SHOCKEY RETIRES



Carol Leo Shockey, Bluefield Division personnel supervisor, retired May 1 after 40 years' service.

Carol holds a BS degree in business and personnel from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He has done graduate work in industrial and mining engineering at West Virginia University and has attended the AEP System management training program at the University of Michigan's Graduate School of Business. He holds teaching certificates in

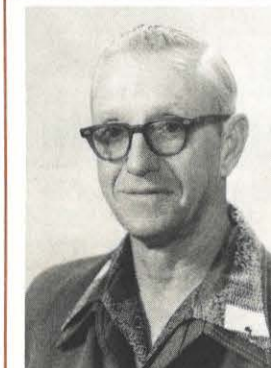
Virginia and West Virginia.

A native of Glengary, West Virginia, Carol began his career in 1938 as a groundman. The following year he was promoted to clerk and was named Bluefield District safety supervisor in 1946. He became district personnel supervisor in 1949 and division personnel supervisor in 1964. Carol was employed by the late James P. Gills. During his work as a groundman, Carol numbered poles in the original Bluefield District, which now has been divided into Abingdon and Bluefield Divisions. Of his work in Personnel, Carol says, "It used to take three days to put a person on the payroll; now it takes three weeks."

Carol plans to take life easy for a while, traveling, hunting, boating, and fishing. He owns a houseboat at Claytor Lake, where he will spend more time. He also enjoys gardening, coin collecting, wood carving and golf.

Active in civic affairs, he is a director, Bluefield Chapter, American Red Cross; past vice president and director, Bluefield Kiwanis Club; past president, Bluefield Chapter, VPI Alumni Association; member, advisory board, Mercer County Vocational and Technical Center; Labor Board Council; Bluefield Chamber of Commerce; West Virginia Opportunity Industrial Center; Trinity Methodist Church; and chairman Mercer County Task Force for Labor.

GENT RETIRES EARLY



Garland Blaine Gent, line crew supervisor N in the Lebanon area c Abingdon Division, elected early retiree May 1 after 27 years' service.

MCMAHANS HELP BUILD CHAPEL IN NICARAGUA



N. C. McMahan, right, pauses during his work on the chapel.

N. C. McMahan, Point Pleasant area manager in Huntington Division, and his wife Velma, along with 24 other West Virginia Baptists, flew to Central America in March to build a chapel at Esteli, Nicaragua. The chapel is in memory of the Rev. Hugh Smith, who died there in 1977 after serving as a missionary in Nicaragua for 17 years.

Some of the work party had expertise in building. Others, like the McMahans, had gained experience through do-it-yourself projects in the building of three houses. Some had brawn and others, wishing to do a Christian service, were willing to risk sore muscles, mashed fingers and skinned knuckles.

Velma relates some of their experiences: "On a conducted tour of Guatemala City and Antigua, we had a first hand view of the devastation caused by previous earthquakes and the deplorable living conditions of the thousands of persons who lost their homes. Rebuilding is taking place so very very slowly in comparison to the need and the population explosion."

She continues, "We had the opportunity of shopping in various markets for the beautiful hand woven items which had been made on very simple looms by the Mayan Indians. We met Carolina Pero Sands, a most outstanding weaving artist, who at the age of 13 had won an award for her work at the World's Fair. Most of these people still wear the dress of their tribe with each having their own tribal design woven into the fabric. The Quetzal is the national bird; and, because it will starve itself to death if captured, it signifies freedom. It is a pattern most frequently used in weaving and silver jewelry or any other of their craft items."

"From Guatemala City we flew to Managua, where we had accommodations at the Motel Las Mercedes directly across from the airport. One night while we were there we were serenaded with the rat-a-tat-tat of revolutionary guns. We were somewhat happy to be transported the next day by school bus to Esteli, about 94 miles north, which was to be our work site. Even there, soldiers were always about. In spite of demonstrations daily, we felt a little more safe.

Arriving in Esteli on Saturday afternoon, we attempted to "set up housekeeping" under quite different circumstances from that which we were used to at home. The women were housed in a storeroom above a shop which had been rented to be used as a temporary church building until the new chapel was completed. We moved in bag and baggage with some former inhabitants — the cucaracha, an occasional salamander and a cat which chased mice over the tin roof overhead.

"Men were housed in rented quarters even less desirable about seven blocks away near the building site. We slept on canvas cots, and those of us who were lucky had a folding chair between beds on which to place our personal articles, a sheet, blanket and pillow. Since most shop owners live in quarters in back with a small courtyard, as did the pastor and his wife who were our host and hostess for a week, the women had access to their kitchen to cook for the group.

"Bath facilities were very limited with a cold water shower. Laundry was done by the women for the group with a scrub-a-dub-dub in a concrete tub. We were most thankful for even these facilities because we could have had to go to a stream miles away to bathe and do the laundry like many of the Nicaraguan women have to do.

"After the weekly meeting of the young people of the church on Saturday evening, they gave us a warm reception, and extended to us their gracious custom of breaking a lovely swan pinata. Bottled drinks from the Coca-Cola Company and cookies baked by Nabisco were served as refreshments.

"Sunday morning March 12, we attended church services at Matagalpa in another church building which had been erected by a previous West Virginia Baptist work group. Afterwards, we went by bus to the resort Hotel Santa Maria de Ostuma, where we walked through a beautiful tropical flower garden, and enjoyed dinner of the ultimate in Nicaraguan cuisine with wild boar as the entree. All young couples hope to spend their honeymoon there.

"Monday morning arrived and we were awakened by the tolling of a church bell at 5:30 a.m. as we were each morning, unless we were awakened much earlier by roosters crowing from the neighbors' courtyards. The men were 'chomping at the bit' to get on with the building of the chapel. They were somewhat frustrated, at first, for building materials were not there as they had hoped they would be.

"Three times a day the men walked seven blocks to our 'Cafe Mission' for meals, and back to the work site. A number of other people took convenient and instant foods to supplement what we were able to get on daily trips to the market. With the meat we could buy, we added rice or pasta as an extender. Salads were limited even though there were fresh vegetables to be had. Because of the microbes deposited by slugs, everything had to be scalded with boiling water or washed in a chlorine solution. Fruits and melons were in season: bananas, pineapple, coconut, guava, oranges, limes, cantaloupe, watermelon, and others which we didn't recognize, but ate and enjoyed. We expected to feed 31 people every day, but we had as many as 10 or more 'drop in' guests, so we literally had to add water to the porridge and gravy to the meat.

"By Saturday at sundown, the chapel wasn't quite under roof, but flashlights were used to get the corrugated tin roof on the 34' x 72' building, so the dedication of the chapel could be held Sunday evening as scheduled.

"Palm Sunday, we attended morning services at Somoto. We had lunch in a restaurant where the kitchen was located in the barnyard with poultry and animals and children running in and out. Most of the group would just as soon forget that experience.

"Sunday evening the dignitaries from the Nicaraguan Baptist Association arrived in Esteli to dedicate the Hugh Smith Memorial Chapel. The Rev. Mario Casanella, who is serving as executive minister of the Nicaraguan Baptist Association, gave the key address. The ten North American women who were in attendance were presented a fabric flower by the women of the church at Esteli in appreciation.

A number of children had hung around the work site all week, many times being underfoot. They were most anxious for any scrap of lumber to make a toy car or truck with bottle caps as headlights. The men tried to be patient with them, for they knew we had brought pens, pencils, combs, balloons, and candy for a treat for them on the last night. There were close to 300 goodie bags made up, but they had all been passed out, and there were still more children. Thank goodness for two or three people who had the foresight to hold back some balloons and candy.

When the group of North Americans or "gringos" first went into Esteli, there was some apprehension, verbally expressed, as to why we were there. Alice Smith, wife of the late Hugh Smith, said she could see by the end of the week that a number of the townspeople made friendly gestures toward us which she had not thought possible. If we West Virginia Baptists made a good impression as ambassadors for Christ — praise God from whom all blessings flow!"

CHARLES SCHNELL ORDAINED A MINISTER



Pictured following the ordination service for Charles Schnell are, l. to r., Rev. Samuel Hill, who baptized Schnell in 1951; Rev. Donald M. Loudermilk; Schnell; Rev. Clyde Bullington; Mrs. Alida Schnell; and Rev. Gerald Morgan.

Charles Schnell, meter reader in the Montgomery area of Charleston Division, was ordained a minister on March 12, 27 years and one day after being baptized. His home church, Emmanuel Baptist, had recommended him to the Kanawha Valley Association of West Virginia American Baptists.

Charles was called to the ministry in 1961 and became an evangelist two years later. He was a youth evangelistic worker in Florida for over three years and had three missionary trips to Central America. In and around Charleston, he has held services at different churches on special occasions or when the regular pastor was away. He sang in a gospel quintet for over three years, and has been a choir director as well as youth worker.

An optimistic individual, Charles says, "I always have a second plan of action. I enjoy my work with the church and also my work as a meter reader. It gives me a lot of opportunity to meet new people and make new contacts in various small churches in the Montgomery area.

VETS RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS



C. L. Slusser
Gen. Line Supv.
Huntington
40 Years



Ralph Sowers
Line Crew Supv. NE
Abingdon
40 Years



K. L. Lazenby
R/W Supervisor
GO-Charleston
40 Years



H. H. Hutcheson
Cust. Serv. Supv.
Charleston
40 Years



Georgie Sevy
Private Secretary Sr.
GO-Charleston
35 Years



Jennie Hall
Cust. Accts. Rep. B
Charleston
35 Years



R. R. Snedegar
Electrical Engineer Sr.
Roanoke
30 Years



E. F. Thompson
Meter Reader
Charleston
30 Years



W. K. Bradshaw
Line Crew Supervisor
Kingsport
30 Years



K. E. Matson
Maint. Mech. B (LTD)
Philip Sporn
30 Years



O. R. Nunnery
Meter Electrician A
Bluefield
30 Years



B. M. Vassar
Residential Rep. Sr.
Bluefield
30 Years



R. C. Jenkins
Line Crew Supv. NE
Pulaski
30 Years



E. M. O'Neal
Div. R/W Maint. Insp.
Beckley
30 Years



G. D. Bratton
Service Supervisor
Roanoke
30 Years



F. H. Taylor, Jr.
Division Manager
Logan-Williamson
25 Years



Bill Bishop, Jr.
Trans. Line Supv.
GO-Huntington
25 Years



C. L. Conners
Area Service Restorer
Charleston
25 Years



O. D. Boothe
Inst. Mechanic B
Philip Sporn
25 Years



Carol Boggess
Secretary-Stenographer
Charleston
20 Years



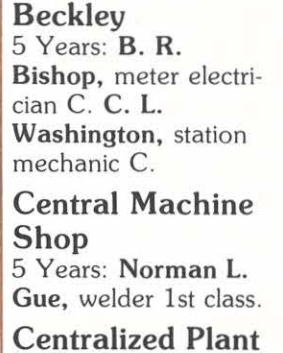
D. E. Campbell
Unit Supervisor
Clinch River
20 Years



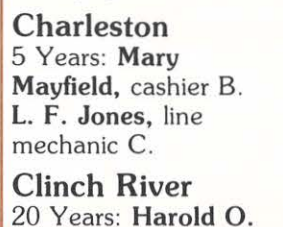
C. L. Lowe
Inst. Mechanic A
Clinch River
20 Years



R. A. Thompson
Inst. Maint. Supv.
Clinch River
20 Years



B. R. Bishop, meter electrician
C. C. L. Washington, station mechanic C.



5 Years: **Norman L. Gue**, welder 1st class.
Centralized Plant Maintenance
5 Years: **Karen J. Hutton**, secretary-stenographer.
Charleston
5 Years: **Mary Mayfield**, cashier B.
L. F. Jones, line mechanic C.
Clinch River
20 Years: **Harold O.**

Garrett, maintenance mechanic A.

General Office
15 Years: **C. R. Saul**, area development consultant, GO Customer Services, Roanoke.
A. K. Harvey, Jr., transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. 10 Years: **R. L. Smith**, head reproduction section, GO General Services, Roanoke. **R. T. Philpott**, hydro clerk A, GO Hydro, Roanoke. **J. F. Paul**, transmission mechanic A, GO T&D Transmission, Charleston. **J. E. McCallum**, data processing operator A, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **R. P. Hendrix**, property maintainer, GO Land Management, Roanoke. 5 Years: **Betty Remington**, engineering clerk B, GO T&D, Roanoke.

Huntington
15 Years: **J. G. Burnside**, records supervisor. 10 Years: **Raymond Gill**, division r/w maintenance inspector.

Kanawha River
25 Years: **Maiga Udris**, chemist assistant. 5 Years: **Dennis T. Young**, maintenance mechanic C. **Dorothy G. Dellinger**, plant clerk C.

Kingsport
10 Years: **B. C. Dishner**, street light attendant. 5 Years: **J. S. Jordan**, T&D clerk B.

Logan-Williamson
5 Years: **Paul E. Owens**, service supervisor. **William G. Doss**, meter reader.

Lynchburg
10 Years: **G. W. Cunningham**, line mechanic A.

Mountaineer
10 Years: **S. Harold Moxley**, assistant chief civil construction. 5 Years: **Samuel E. Longanacre**, electrical construction assistant II. **Howard W. Johnson**, construction stores assistant I. **James A. Parker**, electrical construction assistant I. **Charles L. Cartwright**, civil construction assistant I.

Pulaski
10 Years: **M. W. Price**, custodian. 5 Years: **S. F. Moon**, customer accounts representative C.

Roanoke
5 Years: **S. E. Duncan**, meter reader. **K. B. Higgins**, customer accounts representative C.

Philip Sporn
10 Years: **P. R. Houdashelt**, maintenance mechanic B.

FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

Chester R. Eskew, 83, retired Charleston line inspector, died March 4. A native of Lucas, West Virginia, he began his career in 1916 as a utility man and took early disability retirement on April 1, 1954. Eskew is survived by his widow Martha, P. O. Box 292, Front Royal, Virginia.



William H. Turner, 77, retired Charleston lead draftsman, died April 6. He began his career in 1938 as a draftsman and retired April 1, 1966. Turner is survived by his widow Hattie, 1135 Lyndale Drive, Charleston, West Virginia.



Alvin H. Firebaugh, 79, retired Roanoke meter serviceman A, died March 22. A native of Fincastle, Virginia, he began his career in 1916 as a meter installer and retired December 1, 1963. Firebaugh is survived by two daughters, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



Vernon Waller Hinton, 73, retired Pulaski division meter engineer, died March 21. A native of Summers County, West Virginia, he began his career in 1924 as a helper in the Bluefield Meter Department and retired July 1, 1966. Hinton is survived by two daughters, one son, one sister, 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



Robert Glenn Calhoun, 73, retired customer accounting administrator in General Office Accounting, Roanoke, died April 15. A native of Kingsport, Tennessee, he began his career in 1927 as a payroll clerk with the then Kingsport Utilities, Inc., and retired December 1, 1969. Calhoun is survived by his daughter-in-law, one sister and three grandchildren.



Richard Thomas Donegan, 72, retired Charleston Division T&D clerk, died April 21. A native of Bancroft, West Virginia, he began his career in 1926 as a T&D helper and retired September 1, 1970. Donegan is survived by his widow Lillian Ann, 216 Wyoming Street, Charleston, W. Va.; one son, one daughter; two sisters and two brothers. One brother, Joe W. Donegan, is a retired area serviceman in Charleston Division.



Fred E. Bowman, 74, retired Roanoke service coordinator, died April 17. A native of Callaway, Virginia, he began his career in 1925 as a plant clerk and retired August 1, 1968. Bowman is survived by his widow Lillian, 121 Huntington Boulevard, Roanoke, Va.; one son; one daughter; two grandchildren; three brothers, and three sisters.

NEW FACES AROUND THE SYSTEM

Abingdon

M. C. Leaman, junior clerk, Marion. **R. B. Forrester**, meter reader.

Beckley

Richard L. Sutton, electrical engineer. **John M. Wroten**, meter reader, Oak Hill. **Donald L. Hawks**, automotive mechanic. **B. Richard C. Dempsey**, meter reader.

Bluefield

Garland Keith Jennings, station mechanic. **D. Paris Kelly Belcher, Jr.**, customer accounts representative. **C. Welch. Charles Timothy Glover**, surveyor assistant-rod. **Gary Looney**, meter reader, Grundy.

Central Machine Shop

Terry L. Cyfers, NDE inspector 2nd class.

Centralized Plant Maintenance

Trudy G. Bresenham, field clerk. **Randy Bordenet**, **Gary M. Raines** and **Kenneth R. Dillon**, maintenance mechanics B.

Charleston

Regina Logan, junior clerk. **Archie Boggess**, custodian. **Charles F. Coleman, II**, auto mechanic. **C. Joe A. Sawyers**, meter reader.

Clinch River

Steven B. Carrier, **James L. Grizzle** and **Dennis P. Williams**, utility workers B. **George L. Miller**, stores attendant.

General Office

Danny K. Conwell and **Thomas W. Grubb**, transmission mechanics D, GO T&D Transmission, Bluefield. **Jeanie McGarrell**, data processing operator C, GO Accounting, Roanoke. **Beverly J. Renegar**, junior stenographer, GO Accounting, Roanoke.

Kingsport

Janice Clark, meter reader.

Mountaineer

David D. Bevan and **Tommy K. Mathews**, construction accountants. **C. Kimberle Ellcessor**, construction timekeeper II. **Krista A. Davies**, junior clerk.

Pulaski

D. K. Harmon, meter reader, Hillsville. **Jean G. Curtis**, junior clerk, Christiansburg.

Roanoke

Joy R. Gailey, junior clerk. **Richard A. Casey**, line mechanic. **D. Teddy M. Greer**, line mechanic D, Stuart.

Philip Sporn

J. D. Higginbotham, **D. E. Stroud**, **D. A. Durst** and **M. J. Brown**, utility workers B.

CARLINI MAKES POINT

Energy shortage — real or imagined? Cal Carlini, Charleston division manager, left no doubt as to the answer when he spoke at West Virginia State College on Founders Day recently.

During his presentation, the electricity went off for about two or three seconds, indicating a breaker was operating. His speech continued without incident until he concluded: "If you have received nothing else from this talk today, there's one message I would like to leave with you . . ." At that instant, the electricity went off again for two or three seconds.

Carlini says, "The audience really got a bang out of this interruption. They thought for sure it was planned by Appalachian."

HOW DOES HR 9346 AFFECT YOU?

Something called HR 9346 has already made a big difference in something pretty important: your paycheck.

HR 9346 is the number of the Social Security financing bill, agreed upon at almost the last possible minute by the House and Senate and signed by President Carter on December 20, 1977. HR 9346 is the largest tax increase passed since World War II.

Funds collected from employee and employer alike will go to bolster the dwindling Social Security fund. Even with the additional income, the Social Security fund will actually continue to diminish for a while, with the amount available for Social Security and disability insurance trust and fund payments not expected to rise again until 1980.

Last year, 5.85 percent of the first \$16,500 of each employee's salary was deducted, up to a maximum of \$965.25, and the company paid the same amount into the fund. This year, the employee will pay 6.05 percent of the first \$17,700 of salary, up to a maximum of \$1,070.85. Deductions will increase like this:

1979 — 6.13%	of first \$22,900	up to \$1,403.77
1980 — 6.13%	\$25,900	\$1,587.67
1981 — 6.65%	\$29,700	\$1,975.05
1982 — 6.70%	\$31,800	\$2,130.60
1983 — 6.70%	\$33,900	\$2,271.30
1984 — 6.70%	\$36,000	\$2,412.00
1985 — 7.05%	\$38,100	\$2,686.05
1986 — 7.15%	\$40,200	\$2,874.30
1987 — 7.15%	\$42,600	\$3,045.90

(The above increases from 1982 on are not directly attributable to the new bill; they had been scheduled under an escalator already in the Social Security law.)

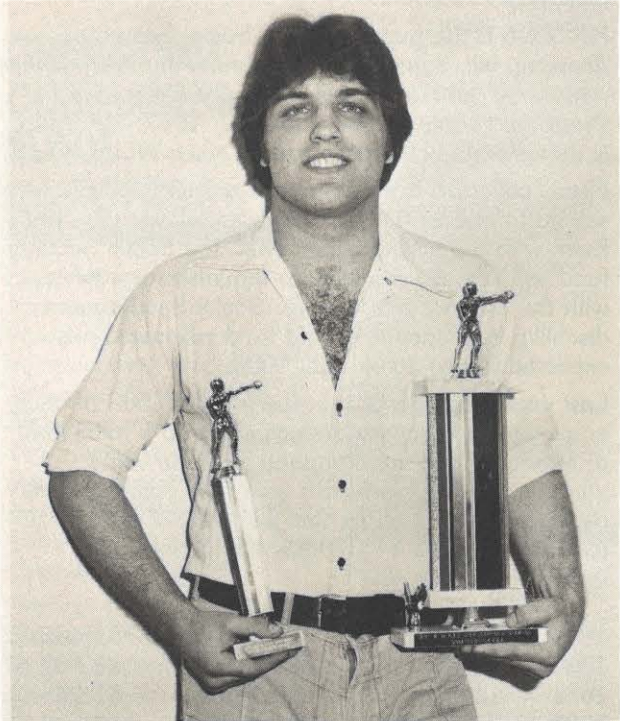
Other provisions of the new law affect those already retired and receiving Social Security. The annual earnings test exempt amount — i.e., that amount a person may earn without affecting his Social Security payment — is \$3,240 for 1978, compared with the previous limit of \$3,000. The new bill also raised the 1978 limit for those over age 65 to \$4,000. This limit will increase by \$500 a year each year until 1982. Also, the limit will cease to apply at age 70, instead of at age 72 as before.

Another amendment would allow widows and widowers over age 60 to re-marry without the loss of their dependents' benefits checks.

Also, a divorced person is now entitled to the spouse's benefits if the marriage lasted at least 10 years. The previous law had required a marriage of at least 20 years.

This new bill is having an immediate effect on every wage earner and employer in the country. In addition to the effect already seen in paychecks, it's worth noting that AEP pension benefit calculations include an offset based on a person's primary Social Security benefit. Generally speaking, an AEP pension is reduced by 1½ percent of the primary Social Security benefit multiplied by the years of accredited Service with AEP after 1977. The entire pension formula is explained in supplements to the new Protection Program booklet.

ADKINS HOLDS 1978 W. VA. AAU HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

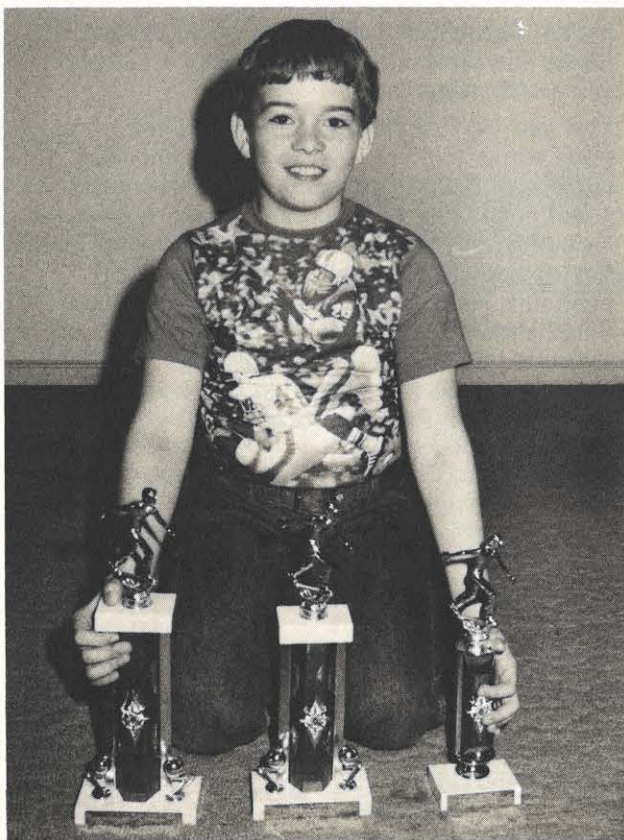


Gary Adkins, motor winder 3rd class at Central Machine Shop, won the 1978 West Virginia AAU Heavyweight Open Division championship title and trophy by a unanimous decision. The 6'4", 220-pound, 20-year-old also won the 1978 W. Va. AAU Open Champion of Champion trophy, awarded to the most outstanding champ in all weight divisions, which includes 11 classes.

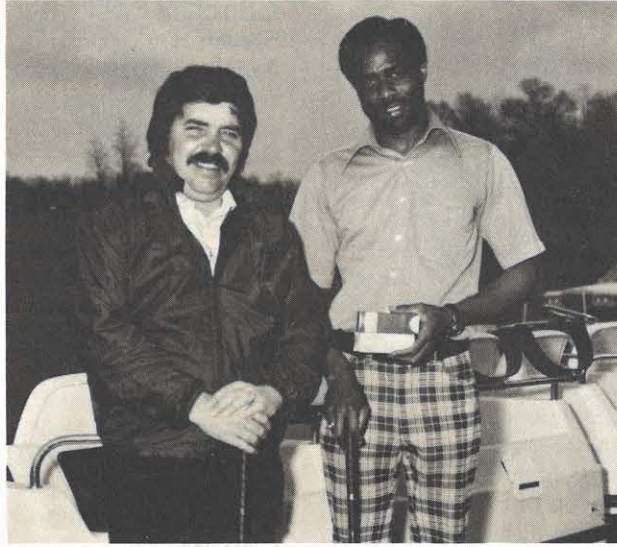
Gary has had 20 fights since he started boxing two years ago. His record is 16 wins, 12 of which were by knockout, and 4 losses.

In 1977 Gary won the Golden Gloves Novice Heavyweight Division, Southern Ohio Championship, and Huntington East Tournament. This year he added trophies from the West Hamlin Tournament, South Point, Ohio, Tournament and was runner-up in the Huntington Regional Golden Gloves Tournament.

Gary competed in the AAU Nationals in Biloxi, Mississippi, last month. His goal is making the 1980 Olympic boxing team. His trainer is Hank Edwards, a retired boxer.



Jeff Kennedy, son of Tom Kennedy, Roanoke line mechanic A, won three trophies in the Roanoke City-County "D" Division bowling tournament. He had high scratch series of 402, was "all events" champion with a score of 1994, and took second place doubles honors with a 1270 score. He bowls in the Vinton Bantam League.



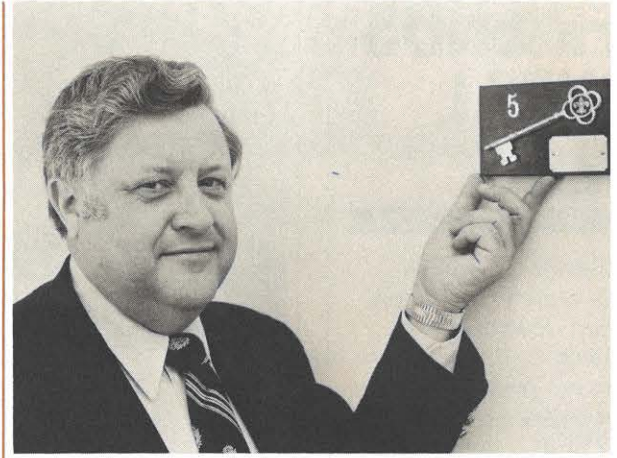
The Bluefield Division employee-guest spring golf tournament was held March 24 at Fincastle Country Club, Bluefield, Virginia. The tournament, played under the Callaway System, was won by Harold Cutlip, drafter B, with a score of 72. Larry Houston, General Office engineering technologist, won the prize for closest to the pin on the number 10 par 3 hole. Pictured are Cutlip, left, and Houston.



Bucky Johnson III displays the racer he built which won a first place gold medal in the Pinewood Derby sponsored by Cub Scout Pack #253, Mason, West Virginia. He went on to win a first-place trophy in the District Derby in Point Pleasant and will compete in the Tri-State Derby in Huntington on May 13. Bucky is the son of Bucky Johnson, Jr., automotive mechanic B in the Point Pleasant area of Huntington Division.



The annual College-Career Day for junior students of Mercer County was held at Bluefield High School on April 5. Assisting Dr. David Klingensmith, director of engineering technology at Bluefield State College, were Ted White, electrical engineer (left), and Richard Bowman, administrative assistant, who discussed careers in electrical engineering.



David Crews, Lynchburg personnel supervisor, is the recipient of the Key Award from the Central District, Blue Ridge Mountains Council, Boy Scouts of America. The award is given annually to the Explorer Scout leader who has made the most outstanding contribution to Exploring during the year. Crews has been an advisor to Explorer Post 155, sponsored by Appalachian Power, for two consecutive years.

CABINET MAKING RELAXING HOBBY FOR CAVENDER



"Cabinet making is pleasurable if not profitable for me," says Delmer Cavender, customer accounting supervisor at Montgomery in Charleston Division. "I have probably built 25 kitchens, complete with countertops, and several bathroom lavinettes for friends and company employees over the last 8 years."

He continues, "In 1970 I was doing some remodeling at my home and needed a new kitchen. I decided I'd try to build it myself since I had more time than I had money. After completing my kitchen, business started picking up. As a matter of fact, I have more than I can do.

"Friends who came to my home liked what they saw, and the word got around quickly. Now I turn down more jobs than I do simply because I don't have the time to devote to it. I do this as a hobby and not to make money. It's a good way to relax after a long day at the office. Besides, it's a lot of satisfaction just working with my hands and seeing the project after it's completed and installed.

"I do most of my cabinet making in the winter because in the summer I enjoy getting outside, gardening. I've made several kitchens from yellow pine, which is a hard pine and difficult to work with, but it's less expensive. I've also used white pine, oak and birch. I cut out my own molding and do all the finishing work.

"Countertops is one of the biggest savings in a kitchen. I can purchase all of the material, including formica, for a large 16-foot countertop for around \$60 and have material left over. It really doesn't take any special tools to make a top. It can all be done by hand."

Delmer doesn't break even on some of the cabinets made for friends and neighbors, but he doesn't seem to care. "In the long run, all I want is expenses and maybe a little extra to purchase some tools. I simply enjoy doing it; and, when I go to bed at night, I can go to sleep feeling I have accomplished something. It's just simply a great feeling."

ROANOKE BOWLING TOURNEY ATTRACTS 52 TEAMS



The Bluefield Bluebirds captured first prize in the women's division of the bowling tournament. Team members are, front row, l. to r., Pat White and Hazel Blöger. Back row, Joyce Fisher, Marie Anderson and Dawn Dodson.

The 1978 Appalachian Power Company Employee's Roanoke Invitational Tenpin Bowling Tournament held March 18 at Roanoke's Viking Lanes attracted 40 men's and 12 women's teams. Lonnie Moran and Dave Barger of General Office T&D Distribution were co-directors, assisted by Aubrey Powell, Wendell Reed, Pat Short, Jim Zimmerman, Larry Stevens, Steve Hubbard, Roy Howard, Ron Hogan, Dan Bird and Joe Kuehn.

A Cedar Coal Company team scored 3045 to take the top prize of \$160. Team members Mike Scarbro, John Goddard, Jerry Ellis, William Gillespie and Ken Black were awarded trophies. The Wild Men from Philip Sporn Plant rolled 3041 to take the second place prize of \$120. The Kilowatts from Bluefield captured the third prize of \$75 with 3022 pins.

Individual trophies were awarded to: Paul Harmon, Philip Sporn Plant, high game-scratch (234); Ernie Linkous, Bluefield, high set-scratch (598); Gail Clark, Charleston, high game-handicap (266); and Charlie Yeager, Philip Sporn Plant, high set-handicap (670).

The entry fee of \$27.50 per team covered all expenses, including prizes.

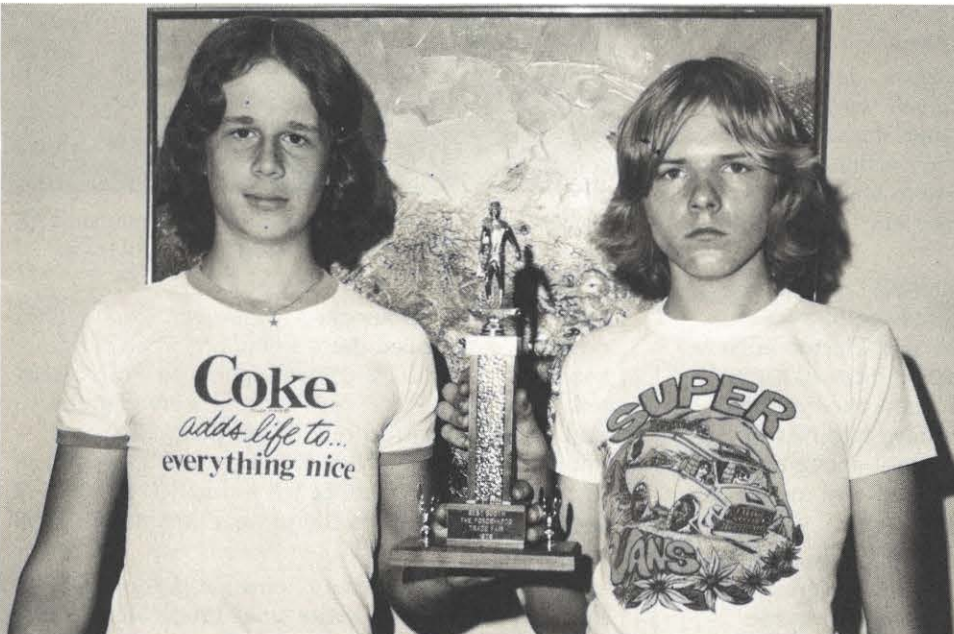
In the women's division, the Bluefield Bluebirds captured the \$55 first prize with 2620 total pins. Team members are Pat White, wife of Electrical Engineer Ted White; Hazel Glover, wife of Retiree Okey Glover; Joyce Fisher, wife of Engineering Technician Bill Fisher; Marie Anderson, wife of Station Crew Supervisor Mervyn Anderson; and Dawn Dodson, wife of Dave Dodson, engineering technologist in GO Communications.

The second prize of \$30 was won by the Tag-A-Longs of the Megawatt League, with 2608 total pins. Team members are Nellie Loveday, Minnie Evans, Janice Kidd, Shirley Clark and Nellie Williams.

The Hopefuls, also of the Megawatt League, rolled 2564 to take the third prize of \$20. Team members are Hazel Hawkins, Phyllis Kellam, Cathy Mayes, Norma Miles and Madge Walker.

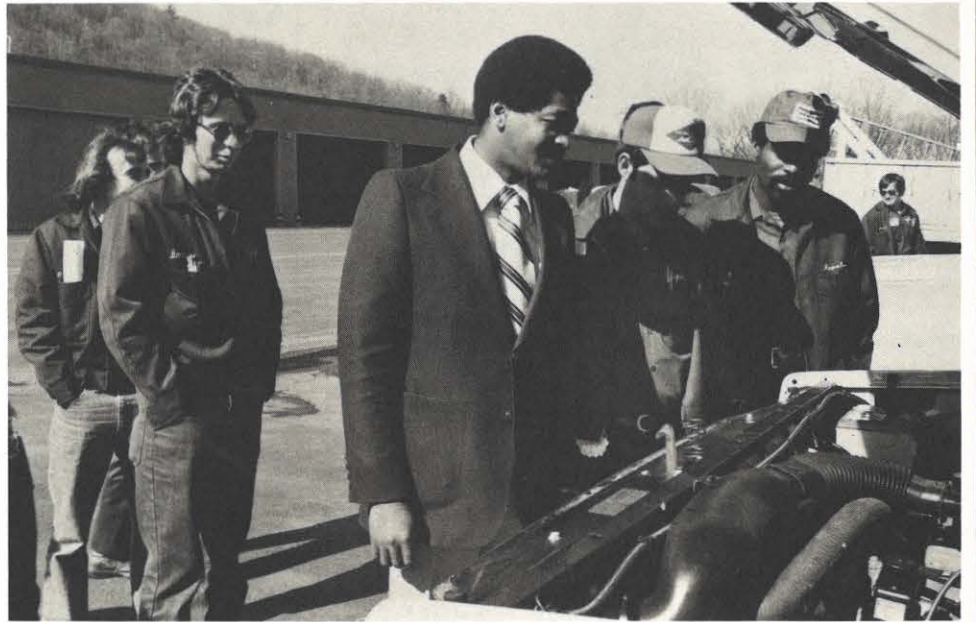
Cash prizes were awarded these individuals: Joyce Fisher, Bluefield Bluebirds, high set-scratch (531), \$15.00; Norma Miles, Megawatt League Hopefuls, high set-handicap (569), \$15.00; Oma Adkins, Megawatt League Reddy Watts, high game-scratch (201), \$9.50; and Carolyn Hogan, Roanoke Pin-Ups, high game-handicap (216), \$9.50.

Susan Caywood, General Office Accounting, and Mary Agnes Sublett, General Rates, Tariffs and Contracts, handled arrangements for the women's division.



"The Force", a Junior Achievement company sponsored by Appalachian Power in Roanoke, won a trophy for having the best booth at the spring trade fair held in Tanglewood Mall. Jerry Booth, left, and Tim Tolley were employees of "The Force"

ROANOKE METER READERS GET TIPS ON DRIVING, CARE OF PICKUP TRUCKS



Donald Fiddler, shop foreman at Statum Chevrolet (center), discusses with Roanoke meter readers "what's under the hood" of the division's new pickup trucks.

Twenty Roanoke Division meter readers received training recently in how to operate the new company pickup trucks to receive the best performance. Donald Fiddler, a factory-trained shop foreman with Statum Chevrolet, Salem, Virginia, was the instructor.

The new pickup trucks replace Scouts which have been used as meter reading vehicles in the Roanoke and Fieldale areas of the division.

The meter readers were also given tips on good driving techniques in an effort to reduce accidents and to stress the importance of operating meter reading vehicles in a manner that will leave a good impression on customers.

The Roanoke program was conducted by Johnny Morris, head meter reader; Guy Funk, garage supervisor; and Ira Peters, personnel supervisor. Instructing the Fieldale employees were Hurd Mason, stores and garage supervisor, and Melvin Brown, customer accounting supervisor.

ROANOKE EMPLOYEES COACH TAR HEELS TO CHAMPIONSHIPS



From left, Kim Wright, Ron Payne and Robert Lane.

The Williamson Road Tar Heels won the Roanoke City Intermediate League basketball championship and the Ninth Annual Knights of Columbus championship on their way to a perfect 15-0 season. The Tar Heels are coached by Ron Payne and Kim Wright, drafters C, and Robert Lane, station mechanic D, of Roanoke Division.

The Tar Heels defeated the Roanoke Catholic Lakers 77-56 for their second consecutive city championship. They also won their second consecutive Knights of Columbus Tournament by defeating the North Roanoke Rustlers 51-43 in the championship finals. The tournament consisted of the 16 best sandlot teams (ages 13-15) in the Roanoke Valley.

The Tar Heels have participated in the Roanoke City League for six years, compiling an overall record of 74-16.

David Ragland, son of R. O. Ragland, Roanoke drafter A, and Troy Blevins, nephew of Wiley Holdren, Roanoke line crew supervisor NE, were instrumental in the success of the Tar Heels this past season.

NORWEGIAN STUDENT VISITS SPANGLERS



Martin Klekken, a 17-year-old Rotary exchange student from Hønefoss, Norway, has been a guest in the home of Glen Lyn Plant Personnel Supervisor Coonie Spangler since last August.

Martin applied to his hometown Rotary Club to be an exchange student to the U. S. and selected West Virginia as the state he would like to visit. He credits his next-door neighbor, who had spent a year in Maine, for giving him encouragement and assistance in applying.

On August 20, 1977, Martin arrived in New York and the following day began his stay with Coonie, a member of the Peterstown Rotary.

Martin has completed high school in Norway, and had the choice of entering Peterstown High as either a junior or senior. He opted for junior and his best subjects are English, geography and history. He has studied English since the sixth grade and speaks it fluently. Martin is a member of the school's Chess Club and attends the young people's Sunday School class at Peterstown Baptist Church.

His hobbies include soccer, ice hockey, and skiing. He has been to Snowshoe Resort to ski since coming to Peterstown and reports "it is a very fine place".

Martin states that Norway does not provide busing or lunch programs, but he feels the teaching and quality of education is about the same as the U. S. There are no extracurricular activities such as athletics, band or clubs. Medical and dental care is provided free up through the school years. Norwegian laws are more strict for minors and their age requirements for such things as operating an automobile and attending movies are higher.

Martin has developed the American habit of snack time at night and enjoys what he calls "sheeze" and crackers. He is also fond of "veg-a-tables". Martin notes everything is more expensive in Norway. A hamburger costs \$2, and he wishes a "McDonald's" would be built in his hometown.

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WHITEFIELD RECALLS EARLY DAYS WITH CLAYTOR, SPORN



Time has been kind to W. I. Whitefield, who retired in 1956 as Roanoke Division manager. He neither looks nor acts like he is 87 years old.

"I have to credit my well being to my wonderful wife Lillian," Whitefield says. "She has given me the support I've needed over the years, that's been my inspiration."

A native of Danville, Virginia, Whitefield graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1911 with a BS degree in electrical engineering. He worked as a student engineer for General Electric Company at Lynn, Massachusetts, before joining the City of Danville's electric department in 1913 as a turbine and meter helper.

"I had never been to Roanoke until my boss sent me to check into the records system and stores department of Roanoke Railway and Electric. Graham Claytor, who headed the company then, showed me around. That was the fall of 1914, and not only did Claytor give me a guided tour of the company, he gave me a tour of Roanoke as well. About six months later, Claytor came to Danville and offered me a job as assistant superintendent of lighting and power. I took it at \$75 a month, less than I was already making."

During World War I, Whitefield volunteered for the Army and received his commission as a second lieutenant in December 1917. "It wasn't too long before Claytor joined and received his commission. The Army shipped me to Peoria, Illinois, for a short while and from there to officer training school at Camp Humphrey, Virginia. The big flu epidemic swept the country at that time, and there were a terrific number of deaths at the camp. Yet there wasn't a single case of flu in my company."

Whitefield was on leave in Roanoke, dating his future wife, when he heard the war was over. "We were in downtown Roanoke when the war's end was announced; almost everyone within miles came. It was so crowded it was difficult to walk." He rejoined the company in January 1919 following his discharge.

Three years after the war, Whitefield "got the itch to do something different. On the advice of a friend, who was president of Utica Gas and Electric in New York, I hired on with a contracting outfit of theirs, Charles M. Kelso Company. I'll never forget that winter of '22. When the train pulled into New York, it was 20° below zero and never got above zero for two solid weeks. It didn't take Lillian and me long to realize we liked southern weather better."

Whitefield asked Claytor for his old job, and he rejoined Roanoke Railway and Electric in January 1924. Soon after, Claytor was promoted to the home office of American Gas and Electric Company, located then in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Whitefield became superintendent of lighting and power.

"Some big changes came about after Appalachian was formed in 1926. Other companies came in under Appalachian, and American Electric Power was the new name of the service corporation. The home office was relocated to New York City, and Claytor was promoted to a very important job. Soon after the move to New York there was a power struggle, and the outcome brought new leaders. People like Philip Sporn were brought in. He was made chief electrical engineer. It's my opinion he was one of the best engineers in the country. He and I became close friends and even after he was made head of American Electric, he still traveled to Roanoke and the two of us maintained close friendship. One of the most interesting jobs I ever worked on was with E. A. Turner under Philip Sporn. It was the construction of the first 138,000 volt line on the system which eventually spanned from Charleston into Roanoke and on to Lynchburg.

Whitefield recalled another project he and Sporn worked on together. "It was the business we got from Danville in new electrical load and in particular the Riverside and Dan River Cotton Mill that we helped bring into the area."

Whitefield was named Roanoke District manager in 1929 and became assistant Roanoke Division manager under Jack Hancock in 1941. He succeeded Hancock as division manager in 1943 and held that position until retirement in 1956.

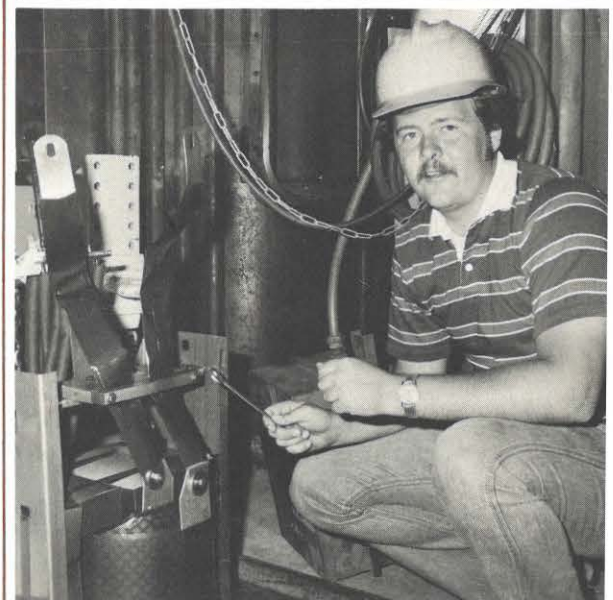
"Lillian and I traveled extensively following my retirement. We've had a very full and interesting life. Now I have no trouble keeping busy mentally or physically. My health won't allow me to do all I would like, but I read a lot and walk a great deal.

"I would like to say this and in no way be boastful: Many people worked under me during my career, and I never heard anyone say I was unfair. My basic philosophy was to treat others like I wanted to be treated."

Whitefield recalls the day John Vaughan came to work in the Roanoke Division. "He joined the company as a power sales engineer and later went to Fieldale and was promoted back to Roanoke about the time I retired. I'm not surprised he's at the top because he has the ability."

The Whitefields have a son and daughter. Another daughter died in 1970. They also have nine grandchildren.

LANE'S HARD HAT PREVENTS INJURY



Robert Lane, Roanoke Division station mechanic D can speak from experience about the value of a hard hat.

After an ice storm knocked out power, Lane and his co-workers patrolled the distribution circuit which serves the WDBJ-TV control station on Poor Mountain. He recalls, "We started down a steep grade, and I had just passed one of our poles when a chunk of ice, four to five feet long and at least four inches thick, fell." The ice fell a distance of about 4 feet, knocking Lane to the ground and stunning him momentarily.

Because he was wearing a hard hat, Lane's only injury was a headache and a small bruise which came from the clip that holds the headband in place. "I would definitely say the hard hat saved me from injury, maybe even my life. That's one time I'm glad the hard hats were available."